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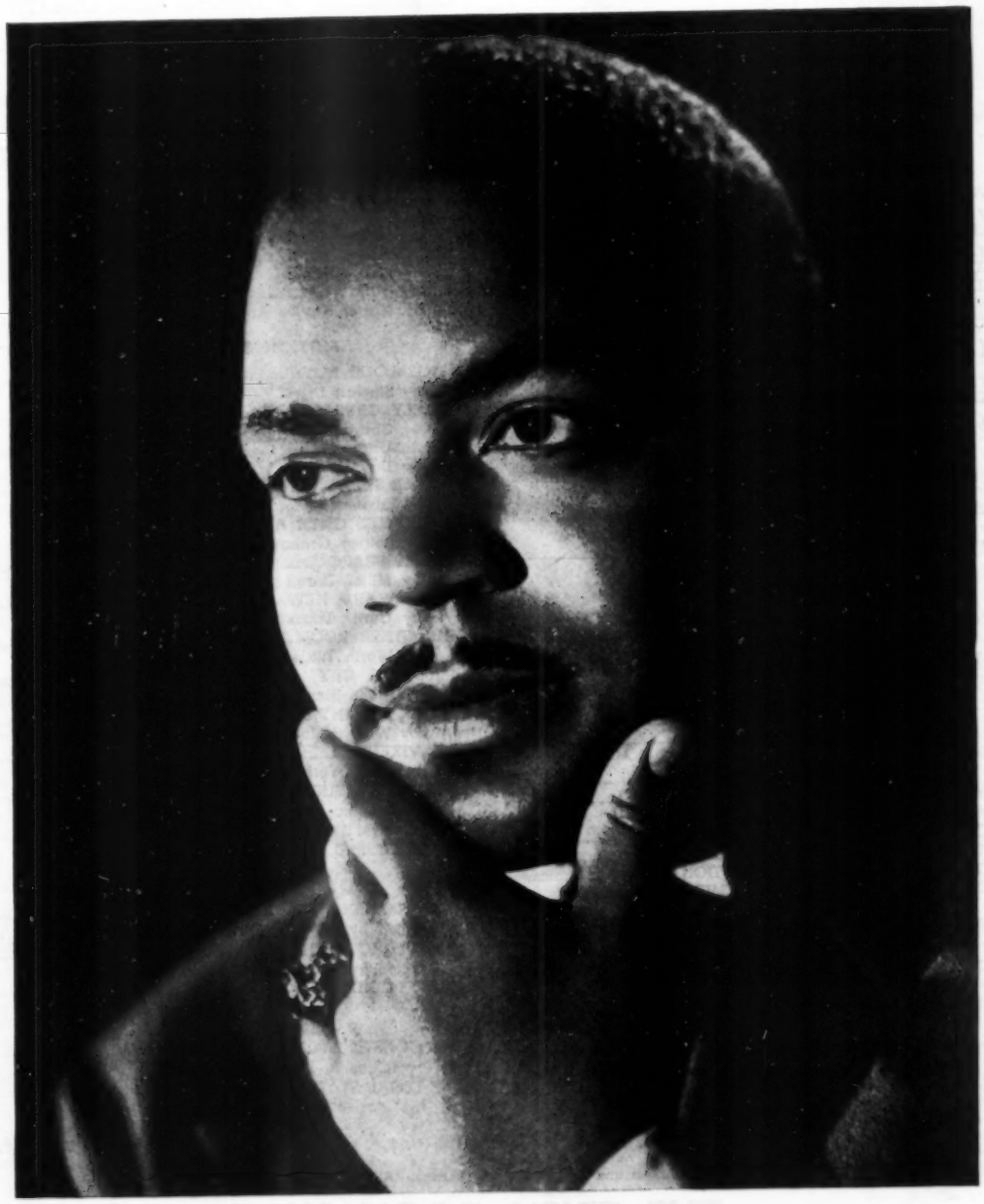

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Vol. 54, No. 9 Whole Number 441

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910 *and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at* 20 *West* 40*th Street, New York* 18, *N. Y., by the Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15 *cents a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscription may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and three weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November* 2, 1910, *at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March* 3, 1879.

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EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

THE COVER—The face on our cover this month is that of the noted baritone, Aubrey Pankey. Mr. Pankey sailed on August 26 on the De Grasse for a three month's concert tour of Europe. He also expects to give recitals for American occupation forces wherever they can be arranged. Mr. Pankey is already known to European concert audiences, and this is his first return to the continent since the war.

•

JOHN M. GREGORY ("Negroes Run This Town—Princeville," page 266) is a free lance writer and lives at Gregory Farm, Whitakers, N. C. Princeville is just one of several hundred all-Negro communities scattered throughout the United States. Oklahoma alone boasts of twenty-five. Mound Bayou, Miss., is probably the best known, but boroughs like Boley and Langston, Okla., Lawnside, N. J., and Brooklyn, Ill., are not unfamiliar.

•

JOHN LOVELL's ("Sources of Broadway," page 268) vocation is professing English at Howard university but he has made the wooing of Thespis into a very illuminating and entertaining avocation. His present survey of the educational background of Broadway's Negro stars is the third installment in his series on the theatre and the drama.

•

ROSE D. PARRY ("The Negro in Toronto," page 271) is a free lance writer and lives in Toronto, Canada.

•

JAMES PECK ("Not So Deep Are the Roots," page 273) is a labor journalist and lives in New York City. He has had several years experience as seaman and was at one time active in the National Maritime Union. During the war Mr. Peck served two years and four months in the Federal Correctional Institution at Danbury, Conn., and at Lewisburg, Pa., as a conscientious war objector. A confirmed foe of jim crow and segregation in all its forms, Mr. Peck was active in the fight against jim crow in these federal institutions. He is co-author of the article "Jim-crow in Federal Prisons" published in the March, 1946, *Crisis*.

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Among the honor graduates at Howard in June were Henry C. Clarke and Esther Rollins, both of whom finished SUMMA CUM LAUDE.

Edwin R. Embree, president of the JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND, announces that since the fund is closing out its work next June (1948), this is the last year that Rosenwald Fellowships will be available.

Fellowships for 1948 are offered under only two categories: (1) To Negroes, and (2) to white Southerners who wish to work on some problem distinctive to the South and who expect to make their careers in the South.

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CARRIE D. PEMBROOK, *head of the department of English at Lane college, received her Ed. D. degree from New York university in June.*

for the Committee on Fellowships, 4901 Ellis Avenue, Chicago 15, Ill.

The nine-week summer session at VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE closed August 22. The sixty-first summer session offered a comprehensive program in workshops, community relations, audio-visual aids, education, music, and health education. More than 900 students were enrolled, 148 of whom pursued work on the graduate level.

The summer school was also host to, and in some instances co-sponsor, of twelve conferences during the period June 23-August 22.

Annual Report of the Virginia Graduate Aid Fund for the fiscal year 1946-1947, which is administered by Virginia State, reveals $113,232.62 as total amounts of funds made available, and $113,227.33 as total expenditures. The report includes a general summary of the out-of-state institutions attended by Virginia students, the number in each institution, and the total of grants; an alphabetized list of persons receiving aid, with the name of the university attended, the field of study, the number of weeks, and the amount; the monies paid Meharry Medical College; the schools from which undergraduates earned their degrees, and the number; distribution of students by schools and fields of study; and a list of persons who were refused aid.

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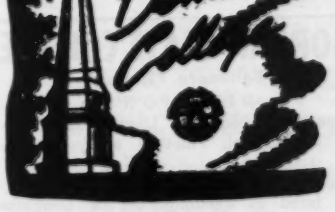

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and industrial arts at WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY, the college faculty in July approved reorganization of the educational program into the following eight divisions: arts and sciences, agriculture, business administration, education, health and physical education, home economics, industries, and music. September 22 has been set as the opening date for the university college of education.

Clara A. Henderson, who joined the Wilberforce faculty in 1943 as instructor in elementary education, has been appointed an assistant in teacher education to Dr. Earl W. Anderson, chairman of the committee on graduate work in education at Ohio State.

Dr. Charles H. Wesley delivered the commencement address August 8 at Bowling Green state university. This is the first time in the history of the institution that a Negro educator has delivered the address.

Plans have been completed for the construction of an infirmary and a combined recreation and study building on the LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (Mo.) campus. The new temporary infirmary will have two six-bed wards, five isolation rooms, of which two can be used as two-bed wards, diet kitchen and utility room, a clinic area, including a waiting room, a storage room, a general office and infirmary,, a consulting room, and two examination and treatment rooms.

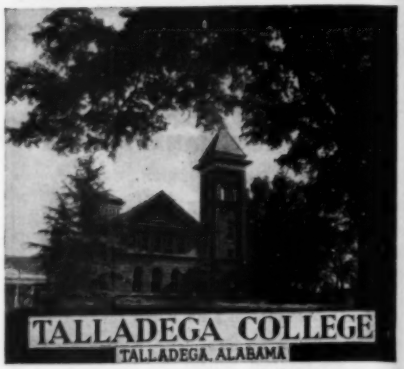
The recreation study building will consist of two units connected by an entrance hall. One unit will be used as a study hall, with office and library.

A total of $300,000 was distributed among the thirty-three colleges of the UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND on June 25 in the first allocation of proceeds from the 1947 campaign.

Among the speakers at the ATLANTA UNIVERSITY SUMMER SCHOOL in the series of discussions on "How New Must the Better World Be" were Ralph McGill, editor of the *Atlanta Constitution;* José Ricardo Duenas, attorney from San Salvador; President Benjamin E. Mays of Morehouse; Dr. Ira DeA. Reid, chairman of the department of sociology at Atlanta; and Dean Albert L. Turner of the North Carolina College Law School.

Second annual convocation address at the summer school was delivered August 7 by President Aaron Brown of Albany State.

The 1947 entertainment series at the summer school closed with a variety program presented by the Deep River Singers. The exhibit of arts and crafts workshop was opened to the public on August 5. Fourteenth season of the



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summer school theatre closed with three performances of *The Barretts of Wimpole Street.* The play was under the direction of Anne M. Cooke and had a cast of student and faculty actors.

The nursery school conducted by the summer school closed its six-week program July 17. Twofold purpose of the school was to train children of preschool age as well as to develop teachers in the field of nursery school education. Forty-two children between the ages of two and five were enrolled. Five teachers took the teacher-training course. Mrs. Ida Jones Curry, visiting professor from Hampton Institute, headed the school.

Seventy-eight ministers and church workers were enrolled in the four-day Institute for Baptists held July 1-4 at MOREHOUSE COLLEGE.

Dr. Anna Grace Newell, a member of the department of biology at SPELMAN COLLEGE from 1929 to 1943, died June 22 at St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, Pa. Dr. Newell was a graduate of Smith college, A.B., A.M.; and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. After leaving Spelman, she taught at Miss Gill's School, Bernardsville, N. J., and at the Moravian College for Women.

Commencement exercises of the annual summer session of SHAW UNIVERSITY were held August 15, with Dr. Howard H. Long of Washington, D. C., as speaker.

Three members of the faculty will be on leave for advanced study during the coming school year. The Rev. Moses N. Delaney, head of the department of the rural church, will study at Drew university; Doris L. Neal, assistant librarian, at the University of Chicago; and Mrs. Dorcus C. Quarles, library assistant, at North Carolina College Library School. E. E. Jones, instructor in physics, and Mrs. Marcell Ford, instructor in religion, return to the staff this year from study-leaves.

President Robert P. Daniel announces the following additions to the faculty for the school-year 1947-48: Carl E. DeVane, instructor in history; William N. Smith, instructor in psychology; Mrs. Vivienne H. Smith, instructor in English; Enola Laws, instructor in music; Rev. Charles R. McCreary, instructor in Bible; Blanche Baker, assistant librarian; Caswell Carter, director of men's activities; and Mrs. Sarah Lambe, assistant dietician.

New president of Local 761-P, UPWA-CIO, at TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE is Dr. James M. Henderson, a research chemist. Local 761-P is a teachers union composed of seventy-five members of

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PRIZE WINNER—MATTIE B. MITCHELL, *21-year-old June graduate of Jackson college, won second prize in the nation-wide essay contest on "The Teacher and the United Nations." Open to all students in teachers' colleges in the USA and Canada, the contest was sponsored jointly by the NEA and the educational mission of UN.*

the Tuskegee faculty and thirty teachers employed in the public elementary and high schools of Macon county. Organized four months ago, the union has been very active in enrolling teachers and working to become their bargaining agent at the institute and in the community.

Mrs. Sadie Peterson-Delaney, chief librarian, Veterans Administration, Tuskegee, has been elected councilor for the American Library Association Hospital Libraries Division.

A university center to train graduate students for human leadership and to act as a clinic for the study of intergroup social problems is to be inaugurated this fall at the NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION. Known as the Center for Human Relations Studies, it will be the first of its kind in the field of American education.

President-emeritus Henry L. McCrorey of JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY will be honored October 19 with a testimonial service in recognition of his achievements at the city Armory-Auditorium, Charlotte, N. C. Dr. McCrorey, who retired June 30, 1947, was connected with the university for sixty-one years, nine as student, twelve as teacher, and forty-two as president.

New president at KNOXVILLE COLLEGE is Rev. J. Reed Miller of Pittsburgh, Pa. Dr. Miller was educated in the Pittsburgh public schools, the University of Pittsburgh, and at the Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary. He has only to write his thesis to complete his work for the Ph.D. at the University of Pittsburgh. Thirty-nine-year-old Dr. Miller is married and has two daughters.

Summer school commencement at ALABAMA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE was held August 9, with Dr. D. S. Yarbrough, president Lane college, as speaker. Twenty-seven in-service teachers received the M.Ed. degree, and 241 candidates the B.S. degree.

The UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA has invited Dr. N. O. Calloway, asssitant professor of internal medicine at the University of Illinois, and Dr. J. E. Bryant, attending physician at the Provident Hospital, Chicago, to conduct a series of lectures in courses being offered by the university medical school.

Herman H. Long has been appointed associate director of the department of race relations of the American Missionary Association at FISK UNIVERSITY.

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AWARD WINNER — MAUDE J. YANCEY, *health coordinator for the state of North Carolina, is winner of the first $1000-fellowship for graduate study awarded by The National Association of College Women. Miss Yancey will do research on Negro health and education.*

Editorials

THEODORE G. BILBO

HE rose to high office and to power of a sort by disfranchising one-half the citizens of Mississippi who happened not to be white.

He remained in office by keeping the white citizens of his state in such depths of ignorance, poverty, and prejudice that although Mississippi was and is the last on the roll call of the 48 states in every important item of progress, they felt they were the honor guard of White Civilization and he their Knight in Armor.

When he died on August 21, 1947, the white section of the human race lost a member who was more of an embarrassment than an ornament, and American Negroes lost an irritating but convenient and satisfying measuring rod of their progress.

"SOCIALLY DISMAL"

NEW YORK CITY has been having its own private court battle over segregated housing in redevelopment projects, a battle whose outcome may affect all states which enact redevelopment laws and thus invite private capital into the housing field.

The fight is with the Metropolitan Life Insurance company over its announced policy of barring Negroes from its Stuyvesant Town project, a housing effort whose rent levels are made possible by condemnation of land through eminent domain proceedings, the ceding of streets to the company by the city, hereafter to be private thoroughfares not open to the New York public, and by a waiving of taxes for a period of 25 years in the gross amount of some $53,000,000.

The Metropolitan has remained adamant in its position and the spectre of segregated housing being the pattern for the next thirty years thus definitely hovers over American Negroes and those others who view such a pattern as a catastrophe in social progress. For with its tremendous financial resources (more than 7 *billions* of dollars) and the necessity of seeking invesments for its funds, the Metropolitan can scatter its scores of millions hither and yon, specifying always that its housing projects shall be segregated on the basis of race and color.

In the midst of this struggle it is heartening to read in the editorial column of the influential New York *Herald Tribune* that the "prospect of seeing public housing replace one segregated unit with another is socially dismal."

Granting that some members of minority groups may find security in living where members of their group predominate, the *Herald Tribune* nevertheless believes that the choice "should be the individual's."

It would be a major tragedy if, with what we have learned about the inherent evils of segregation, the housing pattern of the next three decades should be on such a basis. All Negro organizations and institutions and their friends and allies should be on the alert to prevent the crystallization of such a policy. They should work through their city councils, state legislatures, and the Congress in Washington. The continuance, or the initiation in fresh communities of segregated housing is, indeed, "socially dismal," not only for Negroes, but for communities as a whole.

PROGRESS ON THE FRANCHISE

JUDGE WARING'S sweeping and emphatic decision ruling out the "private club" white primary in South Carolina was followed later in the summer by the encouraging race of Oliver W. Hill, a Richmond attorney, for a seat in the Virginia legislature. Mr. Hill came within 191 votes of being elected. It is estimated that of the total Hill votes, about 700 were cast by white people.

The Hill campaign was notable for the organization and enthusiasm of the Negro voters of Richmond who paid their poll taxes and volunteered in the Hill organization to perform the many tasks necessary to a successful political campaign. Even so, it is estimated that several hundreds of them (enough to have elected Hill) failed to go to the polls and vote—an unfortunate habit of hundreds of thousands of Americans.

The Hill campaign was notable, too, for the sensible and temperate reactions of the Richmond daily papers. Both the *Times-Dispatch* (morning) and *News Leader* (evening) carried front page stories and pictures and editorials. Said Editor Virginius Dabney in the *Times-Dispatch:*

"Since Virginia and Richmond are almost one-third colored, there is nothing revolutionary in the idea that Negro citizens of the city and state desire to have representation in the legislature by their own people. . . . It is pointless to raise the spectre of Reconstruction in this connection. Conditions today and those of 75 years ago are in no sense comparable. . . . It is natural that our Negro citizens should hope to exercise that right. [of voting and holding office—ED.] This can happen without in any sense destroying the South's social pattern. . . . So we may as well accustom ourselves to the thought that the Negro citizens of the Old Dominion may send one of their number to the General Assembly before many years are past."

From Mississippi the news was not so good. In the August 5 primary an uncounted number of Negroes were challenged and many were disqualified when they stated that they favored the FEPC bill in Congress. However, more than the usual number voted in the election and indications are that despite the official policy of making it hard for them to vote, the number will increase in coming elections. This becomes practically a certainty in view of the determination of Mississippi colored citizens to exhaust every legal resource in their fight for the franchise.

Negroes Run this Town—Princeville

By John M. Gregory

A sketch of the all-Negro town of Princeville, N. C., and how it came into being

AS you step off the concrete bridge spanning the Tar river at the south-end of Main street in Tarboro, N. C., you put foot in one of the several incorporated towns in the United States administered solely by Negroes.

The mayor is a Negro, and so are the four town commissioners, the tax collector, the town treasurer, and the police. Its fire department is a member of the colored North Carolina Volunteer Fire Association, and its venerable Negro judge is 86-years-old Virgil Anderson, who hears police cases. The town has been administered by Negroes ever since its incorporation on February 22, 1885, though it has not been exactly easy sledding with the white, agricultural town of Tarboro literally ony a few hundred yards away. Some people in Tarboro do not think it exactly meet that Negroes should attempt an experiment in self-government right under their nose. Yet the relations between the two towns have always been cordial and there is only one recorded attempt of Tarboro to annex Princeville. The attempt was started by a white filling-station owner on one of the highways, and it was believed that the Tarboro police were behind the move. But no one got excited in either town. Then someone dug up an old statute which prohibits the union of two towns if they are on opposite sides of the same river. This laid the annexation agitation and it has never again been raised.

History of Town

Originally Princeville was a part of the Lloyd estate, once a huge plantation. After the close of the Civil War the owner, James Lloyd, began to sell lots from his acreage to the Negro servants of Tarboro's gentry. Henry Cheatham and George White, former Negro Congressmen and both of Princeville, were leaders of the local Negroes at the time. It is said that carpetbaggers urged the two leaders to secure passage of a bill in the state legislature which would allow the town to be incorporated and run by its colored inhabitants. Thus Princeville became a Negro-run town. Today it has a population of 1,000, of which about 100 are white. The two races live together amicably and the whites participate in all elections and attend the town meetings though the chances of any of them being elected to public office are very slim.

The present mayor is Glennie M. Matthewson who, with his brother Raymond, operates a general store on the main highway leading to Scotland Neck, N. C. The brothers were in the army during World War II. Thirty-nine-year-old Glennie was elected mayor of Princeville at the age of twenty-one, and has been mayor for fourteen years now. He is a graduate of the Tarboro colored high school, is married to Mary Ward of Mt. Olive, a graduate of Shaw university, and has three children, a boy and two girls. Mrs. Matthewson teaches in the Princeville public school.

Mayor Matthewson is assisted by four commisioners, James Matthewson, his brother; Paul Shirley, a tinner and sheet metal worker; Johnny Dancer, also a tinner; and Edward Bridgers who owns a general store. W. M. Bridgers is the tax collector; Austin Lorett, chief of police; Joseph Bridgers, town treas-

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST *church, Princeville, N. C. Erected in 1872, this is the most imposing of Princeville's three churches.*

PRINCEVILLE CHILDREN *attend the elementary grades in this comfortale, well-lighted school building.*

urer. Because of the advanced age of Judge Virgil Anderson, Mayor Matthewson often substitutes as police judge.

Crime Almost Nonexistent

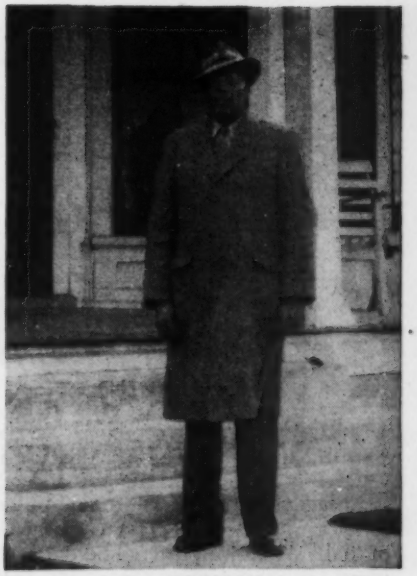
Chief of police Lorett, a small, stocky man with a severe face who gives the impression that he is not to be trifled with, reports that there is not enough crime to justify keeping two police; so he is now the only "copper." There are a few drunks occasionally, but that is all; and when they are arrested they are lodged in the Tarboro jail. When anything really serious happens, the Tarboro police or the county sheriff are called upon for help. Incidentally, the police chief is the only salaried official in Princeville; the others draw commissions from the town's revenues, which are derived from taxes, fines, and the electricity bought from Tarboro and re-sold to the local citizenry. There are only two leading streets in the town and these are maintained as state highways; the others, though unpaved, are kept in good condition.

Princeville's greatest worry is neither taxes nor crime, but the almost decennial floods of the usually sluggish Tar river. Then the muddy, slime-filled swash inundates a large part of the town, washing in terror, sickness, and sometimes death. There is always considerable property loss and many people lose their homes. Because much of the town lies in the bottomlands of the Tar river, Princeville always gets the worst of these floods. The last big flood in 1919 wiped out about ninety percent of the personal property of the inhabitants, and when the bewildered citizens dug themselves out of the mud and slime many of them moved to the Negro section of Tarboro across the river.

But the majority set patiently to work to clean their mud-slimed homes and stayed on in the belief that Princeville will eventually achieve its place in the sun. Since many white people are now buying land above the town for homes, Princeville citizens believe that the white people will take steps to curb the river flood in order to protect their property, and that such preventative will also benefit the town. Tarboro always helps during a flood with gifts of food, clothing, and medical assistance. Princeville inhabitants view the Tar river with grim irony, believing that the periodic floods which almost ruin the town have also been their salvation from annexation to Tarboro.

Though Princeville does not give the impression that it is an up-and-coming town, its leaders are young, intelligent, and aggressive; they are working hard, with practically no financial reward, to keep their town in the running. Negroes own about seventy-five percent of the property in the town and the best people in Tarboro and the county cooperate to help Princeville in every way possible. Their children attend a large, well-lighted grammar school; they have three churches; and they have a wholesome community life.

No matter how heavy the sky over Princeville, its citizens always see the stars.



Glennie M. Matthewson, standing in front of his home, was elected mayor of Princeville at the age of twenty-one. He is still mayor and has the complete confidence of the voters.

GUTTER STREAMS

Some slender sticks float gaily down
the gutter streams.
These are my men-of-war, and those
my yachts of dreams,
That fiercely thunder fire at the hated
foe,
Or cruise in whispering waters where
soft south winds blow.
And I, the captain, gaze at ice-bound
coasts or see
The Emerald Isles and sun-kissed sands
of Sicily.
I sight the storms that wreck my rafts
and drag them down
Beneath the waves to Father Neptune's
coral town.
I mourn my vanquished boats that I'll
not see again.
But all my dreams are not swept down
the sewer's drain!

LORRETTA JOHNSON

MARION ANDERSON

Ah! when you sing, the sky grows grand
and brave;
The stars descend and loiter in tall
trees,
While angels drop their harps, then,
clap and rave;
Time trips, space shrinks, and hearts
take sustained sprees.

ALEXANDER SEYMOUR

Sources of Broadway

By John Lovell, Jr.

This third article in the series sketches the educational background, the histrionic training, and the theatrical experience of Broadway's Negro stars

BROADWAY'S ascendancy as the theatrical capital of America is no "fluke," for its Broadway's peculiar virtue to keep in continual contact with even the pedestrian aspects of daily American life. Therefore its ideas, its techniques, even its wild guesses are either adopted in toto or imitated elsewhere in the country.

Under the circumstances, the Street becomes a sort of Mecca for all histrionic-minded men and women.

To Broadway have come men and women from all ranks of life and from every race and nationality. Many of its topmost performers have come from the ranks of the disadvantaged, from among the Irish, the Jews, and the Negroes.

The emergence of these individuals, the road they traveled, the inspirations they followed, their stage preparation, is an epic of the "American way." We cannot tell the whole story, but we shall relate that part of it which has to do with the Negro, since it has never been fully told before.

Broadway, to begin with, is a jungle, and people prepare for a career there on this assumption. Observe its wild life of money and sex, its impresarios who select plays on hunches or by methodical calculation plus hunch. Observe its reviewers who so often held the power of life and death, theatrically speaking, in their typewriters. And some of the great men and women of the stage have been known to turn thumbs down on having certain valuable persons in their casts for no good reason whatsoever, and their wishes have been respected.

Frankly, the Negro artists has no worse time in this jungle than any one else, though one of his disabilities is colorific. This is evidenced by the fact that in spite of great improvement in recent years, color in any form in the theatre creates a "special problem." A famous Broadway producer told a young Negro actor, after praising him for his talent, that he was sorry the actor wasn't Negroid enough in features to be a good risk. And Earl Sydnor, veteran of eight Broadway shows, writes: "Success in the theatre means walking, walking day in and week out from producer to producer, to agents, and reading theatre pages, to get that one or two Negro parts in all of Broadway."

On the other side of the picture, if the fever is on some producer or angel who thinks the time is again ripe for a big killing in "a Negro show," being a Negro artist is just about the best thing that can happen to you. You will walk into a $50 or $100 a week role over the starved bones of dozens of white artists, some of whom you may know are your superiors on the job. Thus one who hopes to make Broadway must prepare himself for almost anything.

That is exactly what dozens of Negro hopefuls have done. They have started out with talent, a few with genius, and (sometimes to their great dislike) they have cultivated sensationalism. They have trained like hungry athletes. They have searched each inch of sky above and ground below for the chance. They have got themselves introduced, or auditioned; and have auctioned themselves off as far as they thought safe.

Stage Education

If you want to be a tradesman you can go to trade school, but where is the school for Broadway? The stage itself is its biggest school; it teaches more in one six-week rehearsal than all the drama schools of the universities, plus those advertised in *Theatre Arts*. Then there are the tryout tours and post-Broadway road trips, the unions and associations of stage people, such as Actors Equity; then the critics (not just the reviewers), the academies, the specialized schools—for drama or dancing or just plain speaking or moving around—and educational institutions in general.

Education of the right kind these days (and plenty of it) is more important than talent. The woods are full of talent; and generally speaking "the breaks" go to those who have talent plus something else, such as experience, special skills, inside knowledge of a particular operation. Where the knowledge was acquired—that is, in a school or out—is immaterial.

One thing is certain; the present crop of Broadway performers, white and black, are loaded down with talent and education of all kinds. A canvass of 100 Negro

Pauline Meyers (below) has been a star of stage and screen since 1933. Her last play was DEAR RUTH, *which was a two-year hit.*

Ruby Hill's aliases are "St. Louis Woman" and "Anna Lucasta" from the plays of the same names. Her beauty and charm insure her a long, interesting career on the stage.

artists comparable to 100 white artists, discloses some interesting facts.

Let us say that you have selected your artists because of their ability to get themselves picked for professional parts reasonably often. Your list of white artists will include all the "greats and near-greats"—a Bankhead, three Barrymores, a Bellamy, a Bergner, a Cornell, a Diggs, two Evanses, a Fay, a Ferrer, a Fontanne, a Gielgud, a Hampden, a Haydon, a Hayes, a Hepburn, a Huston, a LeGallienne, a Lawrence, a Lukas, a Lunt, a McGuire, a March, a Massey, a Muni, an Olivier, a Webster, and lots of promising youngsters. Your list of Negro artists will include almost all your performers who have been in two or three plays and who are still going, but not quite all. Your white artists naturally occupy, for the most part, measurably higher positions in the theatre.

In the white group, twenty-eight have been to college; in the Negro group, forty-two. In the white group, there is one master of arts (Burgess Meredith, Amherst) and one LL.D. (Eva LeGallienne, Brown); in the Negro group, there is an LL.B. (Paul Robeson, Columbia) and six masters: Katherine Dunham, Todd Duncan, Lorenzo Fuller, Mildred Smith, Theodora Smith, Andrew Taylor, and Milton Wood. Theodora Smith holds a master of fine arts degree from Yale (a dramatic degree), and Milton Wood has an M.A. in drama from Iowa. The other degrees were awarded by such pillars of learning as Chicago, Columbia, Kansas, and Western Reserve.

Much of the education of the white artists has come from private schools in England, France, and America, and from academies of the drama. New York's American Academy of Dramatic Arts and London's Royal Academy of Dramatic Art have trainod more than their share. London's Central School of Speech Training and Dramatic Art trained Sir Laurence Olivier, and he in turn is the chief educator (as well as actor) in the Old Vic and New Vic training centers. Be it said to his everlasting credit that he warmly invited Muriel Smith to train with his people after she had been refused by the American Academy. Be it said to the American Academy's everlasting shame that, in spite of the remarkable actors it has had the good fortune to entertain from time to time, it still maintains a lily-white policy.

The one and only Ethel Waters (below) has been a credit to the stage for many years. Her valuable advice and encouragement have been an inspiration to many youngsters.

Valerie Black, from Corona, L. I., has been in six Broadway productions already and is booked for another this fall. She has also been associated with the Ballet Theatre.

Negro artists, on the other hand, have made a specialty of "general education," apparently for reasons of security. They may start out with fleeting aspirations for the stage, but lacking economic backing, they must train for a surer, more immediate job in the hope that some day they may find the nest-egg which will permit them the luxury of a year or two in New York where they can hope to "catch on" or "be seen" by the right people.

And whereas perhaps the majority of the white artists knew early that they were going to be actors, many Negro arrtists discovered this fact only after they got to high school or college and made the dramatic society. Getting a general education has meant a loss of time in pursuit of their careers. But it has enhanced their value once they arrived. And it has refreshed the droughty spots between engagements, since most of these artists can readily turn to something else on a moment's notice.

In Mildred Smith (below) beauty combines with brains. Miss Smith is a talented actress and holds both a B. A. and a M. Psych. from Western Reserve.

This study in exotica is none other than Muriel Smith, picked by John Hammond, Jr., as the original Carmen Jones. Curtis-educated Miss Smith is equally good at singing and acting.

Peter Basch

Their Colleges

So it happens that one hundred Negro members of the Broadway firmament have previously brightened, with their good looks and personalities, the campuses of Atlanta, Bordentown, Brookwood, Butler, Californa, Chicago, Claflin, Columbia, Eastman, Florida A. and M., Hamline, Hampton, Howard, Hunter, Iowa, Kansas, Kent State, Minnesota, Nebraska, New School, Ohio State, Paul Quinn, Rust, Rutgers, Smith, Spelman, Springfield, Talladega, Tennessee State, Tuskegee, Virginia State, West Virginia State, Western Reserve, Wilberforce, Wiley, and Yale.

The New School has seen four of them: Dorothy Carter, Earle Hyman, Pauline Meyers, and Frederick O'Neal. Howard has seen four: Todd Duncan (as teacher), Ossie Davis, Delores Martin, and Lawrence Winters. Columbia has seen three: Todd Duncan, Paul Robeson, and Muriel Rahn. And West Virginia State has seen three: George Oliver, Caleb Peterson, and Milton Wood.

It is pretty well known that the largest number of big successes among Negro Broadwayites has been in the musical field. You would therefore expect musical education to have the lion's share of credit, and you would not be too far wrong. Five large conservatories feature in their education: Juilliard leads with seven; Cozy Cole, Helen Ferguson, Lorenzo Fuller (who is still a voice fellow at Juilliard while holding an important role in *Finian's Rainbow*, Juanita Hall, Lonny Jackson, Muriel Rahn, and Lawrence Winters. From Boston Conservatory came Avon Long; from Chicago Conservatory, William Franklin; from Curtis, Muriel Smith; and from New England Conservatory, J. Rosamund and Harriett Jackson.

Another thing. Most of the white artists have long since

come to the end of their formal education, except for dips into a highclass hobby. Not so the Negro artists. Dozens of them are still in hard training, even while working in shows. Private teachers in New York and elsewhere would be a lot poorer without them.

They seem to be dreaming of the day when some really big chance will come to find them ready. They are not afraid of the competition any more; they want the security and magnificence of the ever-challenging top. What golden dreams can be realized through education and cruel training and hard work

How very far they are from the tramp Negro stagepeople of a generation or two ago! The difference is not merely in forms of education and in their abstention, as a general rule, from frenetic notoriety; these young men and women differ because they are artists. They are not trying to be like white artists, and they show few traces of snobbishness and pseudo-sophistication of half-baked college people. They are trying to express the most exciting things that they and their backgrounds have to offer.

Though they count, general education and conservatory education are not the most effective sources of Broadway. Other factors account for the individual's *chance* on Broadway as well as for his *success.*

Graphic House

THIS QUARTET FROM "FINIAN'S RAINBOW" *turns the tables. The only figure in blackface is a white man, Robert Pitkin, from New Orleans, La. His singing partners are (L to R) Jerry Laws, Louis Sharp, and Lorenzo Fuller. In this trio are two bachelor's and a master's degree from Kansas University, a voice fellow at Juilliard (Fuller) and three radio stars.*

Personal Testimony

Let us take the testimony of ten of our select one hundred. Valerie Black says that the most important factors are "hard work, faith, and the proper breaks." Georgette Harvey "blames" her singing ability for her Broadway opportunity, and the recommendation of J. Rosamond Johnson to the Theatre Guild for her climb to success. Melvin Howard says he was able to sing and play the piano well enough to impress (at the right time) Robert Shaw, choral director of the Fred Waring Glee Club, but more important at the time, of *Carmen Jones.*

J. Rosamonl Johnson attributes his chances to his agent, M. S. Bentham, and to the authors and producers of the early plays in which he appeared. John Marriott's effective inspirers were all in Ohio: Hallie Q. Brown of Wilberforce; and Russell and Rowena Jelliffe, co-heads of the Karamu Players, and William McDermott, drama critic on the *Plain Dealer,* all of Cleveland.

Pauline Myers was "ready" when a replacement was necessary in the cast of *Growin' Pains.* Since then six Broadway roles and two Hollywood roles have equipped her with the "experience" every Broadway producer finds indispensable. Muriel Rahn has picked up much valuable knowledge and inspiration from a host of her associates in plays: Judith Anderson, Clemence Dane, Richard Addinsell, Alfred Lunt, Lynn Fontanne, Reuen Mamoulian, and Oscar Hammerstein, II; but she gives greatest credit to her husband, Dick Campbell (USO director) for "careful dramatic coaching, astute business dealings, public relations, and guidance."

James Flash Riley says the Federal Theatre gave him his professional start, but that his three years with Orson Welles were "priceless." Mildred Smith was going about her daily work as teacher and educational director and acting for fun when she was discovered, Cinderella-fashion, by agents from Broadway. Earl Sydnor says he got started in an amateur group in Boston, and six years later found himself in Lew Leslie's *Blackbirds of 1934.*

The examples of two brilliant and beautiful girls named Smith show how education may miraculously get one inside the glamorous Broadway portals. Muriel Smith was born in New York, attended PS 17 and Hoffman Junior High (where Angelo Patri was principal). Then she went to Theodore Roosevelt High School with the determination, mind you, to become a nurse.

She had started acting and singing back at PS 17 when, age eight and in the part of a Red Cross Nurse, she had sung "The Rose That Blows in No Man's Land." At ten she sang in public in student assemblies, and at 11 she was a member of a junior high chorus that sang from the stage at the Metropolitan. After her glorious years as the original Carmen Jones, she returned to the Metropolitan stage (in 1945) to sing with the Philharmonic, under the direction of Leonard Bernstein.

Through Sally Westmoreland she got

(Continued on page 283)

The Negro in Toronto

By Rose D. Parry

I'm on my way to Canada
Where everyone is free;
So good-bye Ol' Massa
Don't chase after me.

In Canada the Negro, according to this author, gets bread without butter

With this song on their lips, and riding the "underground railroad" out of the Deep South in defiance of fugitive slave laws, thousands of Negroes tumbled across the Canadian border almost a century ago. They came in search of the unprejudiced conditions that were supposed to exist in Canada. They were the vanguard of 23,000 eventually to leave the United States for Canada.

They were running away from serfdom, from being kicked around, from being told they were not as good as white men. They had heard that in Canada Negroes were treated the same as anybody else, were accepted in the community, and had a chance to be citizens with equal rights. Here they could own property, could raise a family and properly school their children, have good jobs, not be segregated in public places.

But what they found was not quite what they expected, and in the year 1947 some Canadian Negroes suffer mental indigestion over the unhappy position of being accepted on the one hand and rejected on the other.

In Toronto, where there are 5,000 colored persons, their position is not very different from that in other centres in Canada where there is a moderate Negro population. For years some Negroes have felt that theirs is a losing game. Though their Canadian white brothers have given them seats at the table and cards to play with, the Negroes still can't buy enough chips from the "banker" to play out their hand. The colored man is not called "nigger" and does not have to get off the sidewalk when a white man comes along, and nobody tries to keep him from voting, but it still hurts to be slapped down when he goes looking for a decent job.

"Bread Without Butter"

That, many Negroes say, is what colored people are up against in Canada. It is like being "pinched" for starting up on the green light. They contend that to be able to go to a movie without discrimination is no compensation for bread without butter.

Colored people will argue about what they can do and cannot do in a city like Toronto. Some will say that it is a completely hopeless picture. Negroes are not given a chance by the large white population, "So what's the use of trying?" Others say that if a Negro has the ambition, determination, ability, and sheer stubborness not to give up he can become as successful as any white person. Many leaders in the colored community are critical about the "give-up" type and sharply rap their knuckles for not trying, at the same time pointing to the successful Negroes as examples of what can be done with greater personal satisfaction and happiness than in some other countries.

They point to men like Fred L. Hubbard, whose father was an alderman and controller. Fred began as a boy sweeping floors in the old City Hall. He studied bookkeeping and accounting at night, and when the city moved to its present city hall, he went into the assessment department where he worked his way up. When R. J. Fleming, then assessment commissioner, became manager of the Toronto Street Railway, Fred became his assistant.

By 1930, Fred had become an outstanding authority on street railways and widely respected, and the same year he was appointed a commissioner on the TTC, a position he held for nine years, including one term as chairman. Now retired, Mr. Hubbard manages the Fleming estates. Says he: "I have never thought of myself as being anything but a citizen of Toronto, and so have all my friends."

Then there is Nathan Redmon, who came to Toronto from the United States in 1913. He took a job as a porter, "but realized I had to have security for my family and education for my children." He saved his money for five years and then bought a truck and started his own cartage business which grew to a fleet of nine trucks, one of the biggest in York Township. A member of the Truck Owners' Association and the Motor League, Mr. Redmon says it was hard getting business at first, "but after I was in, the color line disappeared."

On Yonge Street, another Negro had gone into business. He was Oscar Archie Brewton, who got his education in the United States, and began his practice as a foot specialist in Toronto. Through trying circumstances, Dr. Brewton's activities widened until today he has a large practice of almost all white patients and a home in exclusive Forest Hill Village, with a university professor on one side and a lawyer on the other as neighbors.

There is John M. Charles, who came to Toronto after practicing dentistry in Nigeria. He gave up the profession in favor of real estate, and began managing properties. Today he is a successful real estate broker, and a member of the Toronto Real Estate Board. William A. White, a graduate of Dalhousie University, came to Toronto recently to take charge of boys' work at the Home Services Association, a colored community centre on Bathurst Street. He is an executive of the Professional Social Workers' Assembly, and formerly adult educational director at the Central YMCA in Halifax. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Other colored people could be pointed out. Men like H. M. Bell of

Bell Motors on Church Street; Spencer Pitt, a lawyer, and Wilbur Howard, ordained minister and in charge of boy's work for the United Church. There is a Negro lecturer in bacteriology at the University of Toronto; a colored girl on the public health nursing staff, the first in Toronto. Of the two colored men who work for the TTC, one is a foreman and in charge of maintenance. A colored man is on the teaching staff of East York Collegiate. And there was Dr. A. Wyke, who had a large and successful white practice.

The sports world has found Toronto Negroes in the top brackets, men such as Larry Gains, heavyweight champion of Canada, and best known of them all. Other favorites were Doug Lewis, welterweight and Jene Clay, bantamweight. It is interesting to note that the only professional boxer in Toronto who can draw a crowd today is a little colored boy, Arthur King.

Although these personalities are held up as examples of how far a Negro can go in Toronto with its predominately white population, most colored people assert, however, that it does not mean there is pie in the sky for the taking. Discrimination exists, some say, creating for the ordinary Negro with an ordinary education and ability a far greater struggle for decent jobs and a good standard of living than has to be faced by the ordinary white citizen. There is a black side to the picture, too.

The Hairdresser

As long as she can remember, Marguerite Bradley, a Toronto girl, has wanted to be a hairdresser, and so after she graduated from Malvern Collegiate she sent an application to the Marvel Hairdressing Schools. She received a letter accepting the application with the request for a $25 advance payment on the course, which she sent by return mail. When she reported to the school and they saw her for the first time, she was told that because she was colored the school could not accept her and her $25 was returned. She went looking for another school and was accepted. After she graduated six months later she tried to get a job in twenty-five beauty parlors. None would take her. She was finally forced to become a sewing machine operator in a tailor shop.

When asked why he did not accept her, Arthur Ready, manager of the Marvel Hairdressing Schools, said: "You realize it would be impossible to have a colored girl here with so many students and business connections. There would be a natural objection by the students . . . they would feel uncomfortable about it, but we have Chinese and Japanese students."

Not Isolated Case

The case of Marguerite Bradley is by no means isolated, but it illustrates an important problem in the life of the average Toronto Negro, who is not comforted by knowing he is free of the severe social prejudices practiced in many sections of the United States.

In fact, many colored people have gone to the United States to face the prejudice in preference to the economic discrimination which they claim makes life almost impossible for them in Canada. Most Negroes in Toronto believe that there is little they can expect after completing long and expensive education. Many feel their only real chance lies in the United States where the greater Negro population provides wider professional and business opportunities. It is felt that the opportunities across the border are three to one as compared with those in Canada.

To back up their conclusions they point to the almost impossible task of finding positions in Toronto as clerks, stenographers, bookkeepers, accountants, salesmen—jobs requiring them to meet the public. They also call attention to the difficulty in rising to higher and better paid positions when they do find employment. For instance, a porter on a railway has little chance of becoming a conductor, a trainman, or a brakeman.

They admit that the situation has improved in recent years to the extent that colored girls are now being employed as stenographers in various government branches, such as the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the National Employment Office. For men there is not that much improvement, although Negroes have been hired in positions of some promise by the provincial government, and the city. As for the business and industrial world generally, Negroes feel it is all but hopeless to get anything but low-paid manual jobs.

In a survey of 158 business and industrial firms in Toronto, 111 said they had no Negro employees. Twenty-five said their employees would be agreeable to a colored boy or girl; seven said they believed Negroes would be capable of satisfactory work; seven said the public would not do business with colored employees. Nineteen firms expressed their belief that Negroes would be acceptable for office work, and 90 specified they would be good only for "other jobs."

It is interesting to note that 91 firms said they would be willing to employ Negroes on the same basis as whites if their qualifications were equal. This brings up the point as to whether or not Negroes in Toronto are qualified. Fifty-nine firms stated the only reason they had not employed Negroes is that no qualified Negroes had ever applied.

Qualifications Low

On this point, G. F. Collins, manager of the Toronto Men's Division of the National Employment Office, said: "We have found that the qualifications of Negroes have been generally low. It would be surprising to find a Negro able to fill some of the executive positions we have open."

When questioned about this, most Negroes claim that the jobs they are compelled to take made it impossible to give their children a complete eduation, and many are forced to leave school before graduating in order to increase the family earnings. Like their fathers, they go into the only fields open to them: porters, factory or mill hands, helpers, cleaners, janitors and other jobs which the employer feels will not bring them into public prominence.

A survey of professional employers in Toronto yielded the following report: Asked whether or not they would consider taking colored employees in their offices on the same basis as whites, qualifications being equal, the answer was "no" from five lawyers, six doctors, three advertising agencies, two insurance companies, one architect, and two investment dealers. Answering "yes" were four lawyers, three doctors, three architects, a public accountant, an insurance company, and an advertising company.

The two large department stores in Toronto say they have no policy regarding Negro applicants for jobs—but they do employ them, of course.

Colored people, who have searched for better jobs in Toronto, report that they generally get much the same answer from employers: "It isn't that I have any personal objection, but the feelings of the staff must be taken into consideration, and, of course, the public with whom we do business may object.

NEXT MONTH

George W. Westerman will have an article in the October *Crisis* discussing "Gold and Silver Men" in the Canal Zone.

Not So Deep Are the Roots

By James Peck

THE roots of racial segregation in the upper South are not too deep to be uprooted without dynamite. This was shown recently when sixteen Negroes and whites took a 2-week bus trip through Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky, in which Negroes sat in front and whites in the rear.

We had the legal backing of a U. S. Supreme Court decision of last June outlawing jim-crow in interstate travel. We found, however, that the bus companies are treating that decision as if it did not exist.

There were twelve arrests during the trip and a number of threatened arrests. In such instances buses were delayed up to two hours while police were summoned, company attorneys notified and warrants were drawn up. During these tense delays, with attention focused on the issue, we were in a strategic position to determine just how deep the roots are—both among passengers and the townspeople who gathered outside.

The deeper you go in the South, the deeper are the roots. As a Negro told us on the first lap of our trip: "Some bus drivers are crazy: and the farther South you go, the crazier they get. And as a white from South Carolina commented about a Negro in our group who was sitting in front: "In my state he would either move or be killed."

But this was the upper South and in the twenty-six buses we rode, not a single act of hostility occured. In only one instance—at Chapel Hill, N. C.—was there an act of hostility outside the bus. During the trip we came in direct contact with a large number of people.

There was the pretty blonde from Winston-Salem who spoke up for us aboard the bus on which arrests occurred at Chapel Hill. There was the girl who, finding no seat, asked the driver of a Statesville-Asheville bus how come a Negro was sitting in front. Being the only driver we encountered who recognized the existence of the Supreme Court decision, he said: "Don't blame me: blame those bastards up in Washington." The woman did not protest.

On April 9 a group of sixteen men, eight Negro and eight white, began a two-week bus tour of four southern states in order to find out whether the bus companies were observing the U. S. Supreme Court ban against jim-crow in interstate bus travel. This article reports their experiences

On that same bus was a portly white man traveling with his family who said in a loud voice: "I wish I was the driver." But at Chapel Hill a white passenger got off the bus, went into the station, and protested to the driver against his ordering arrests.

Then there were the majority of white passengers who made no comment at all upon seeing Negroes in front. Aboard buses where drivers ignored our Negroes sitting in front, passengers did likewise.

Uncle Toms

Inevitably, we encountered a few Uncle Toms—Negroes of the "yahsir massah" type. At Oxford, N. C., where an arrest was threatened, an aged Negro teacher, sweating under his stiff white collar, pleaded with Bayard Rustin one of our Negroes sitting in front: "Please move. Don't do this. You'll get to Durham just the same whether you sit in front or in back." When the bus moved on without our being arrested he became abjectly apologetic. But in the rear of that same bus Negro passengers were audibly supporting Rustin. One Negro woman threatened to sue the bus company for being unnecessarily delayed.

In Petersburg, Va., a decrepit Negro porter tried to ingratiate himself by boarding the bus while an arrest was being made and saying: "We know how to deal with him. We ought to drag him off." But in Culpeper, Va., a Negro woman courageously boarded the bus and asked the Negro being arrested if he needed any help. She later came right into the office of the justice of the peace where we were putting up bail and again offered aid.

Then there were the many Negro passengers who made no comment at all. There were also the hundreds of Negroes who supported us by attending the meetings in various towns called by the NAACP to hear our group report on the trip. At the end of these meetings men and women came up to congratulate us with tears in their eyes. At the student meetings both Negroes and whites pledged to carry on by traveling in an unsegregated manner when they go home to another state.

Neither bus drivers nor police showed any hostilities in making the arrests. As a National Trailways driver told Conrad Lynn, when he refused to move to the back of a bus at Petersburg: "Personally, I don't care where you sit, but I have my orders from the company." A cop there told Rev. Ernest Bromley, white North Carolina minister in our group who was defending Lynn's position: "I am just not Christian enough."

Both northerners and southerners are suprised that the sole act of hostility against us was at Chapel Hill, which they associate with liberalism and Dr. Frank P. Graham, head of the University of North Carolina. We were susprised too, until we later learned that our action on the bus was but one of a series of recent acts against the jimcrow pattern at Chapel Hill. It just happened to be our action which exploded the growing hatred of the poor whites, who tenaciously hold on to their only privilege in our society—

that of being recognized as superior to the Negroes.

The explosion might have occurred when Eleanor Roosevelt, rather than eat at a segregated function at the university, got Coca Cola and sandwiches and ate on the steps. It might have occurred when Dorothy Maynor, noted Negro singer, gave a concert on the campus at which seating was unsegregated. It might have occurred when Rev. Charles Jones, courageous white minister who housed our group, permitted an interracial CIO union meeting in his church.

But it just happened to occur on a grey Sunday afternoon when four of our group were arrested aboard a bus for Greensboro.

SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS *in the trip (April 9-23) to test application of the U. S. Supreme Court ruling barring jim-crow in interstate bus travel. Pictured here from left to right are Worth Randle, Wallace Nelson, Ernest Bromley, James Peck, Igal Roodenko, Bayard Rustin, Joe Felmet, George Houser, and Andrew Johnson.*

White Cab Drivers

It was a particularly quiet Sunday afternoon in the little town and the white cab drivers were hanging around the bus station with nothing to do. Then they saw the bus held up and got wind of what was going on. Here was something over which they could work out their frustration. Two ringleaders started haranguing the other drivers. They started milling around closer to where the bus was parked.

When I got off the bus to put up bail and call our attorney, five of the drivers surrounded me. "Coming down here to stir up the niggers," snarled a big guy with steel-cold grey eyes. With that he slugged me a resounding blow on the side of the head. A couple of the bus passengers who were standing around protested and the five withdrew. I later learned that the sentiment among passengers aboard the bus was predominantly in our favor.

From the windows of the courthouse, as I looked at the mob of cab drivers, I recalled how of the 31 indicted two months ago in Greenville, S. C., for lynching a Negro, 28 of them were cab drivers. Every few minutes a driver would come into the courthouse, allegedly to get a drink. On one occasion he said: "They'll never get a bus out of here."

When we finally left the courthouse in Rev. Jones's car, twelve of the drivers piled into three cabs and sped after us. We succeded in getting to Rev. Jones's home first. When we got inside and looked out of the window, we saw two of the drivers getting out with big sticks. Others started to pick up rocks by the roadside when one of the mob, apparently scared, motioned to them to lay off.

They drove away. But a few minutes later Rev. Jones, who was already marked as a "nigger lover" because of the CIO meeting in his church, received an anonymous phone call. "Get the niggers out of town by nightfall or we'll burn down your house," threatened a quivering voice. The following day he got a phone call threatening him with murder.

He managed to secure cars to get us out of town and then removed his wife and two children to safety. A number of the university students offered to stay at his house and protect him from any acts of violence. But none of the threats materialized and the only further act was the throwing of a rock at Rev. Jones's assistant as he approached his home.

A contrast to Chapel Hill was Culpeper, Va., where another arrest was made. As would happen in any small town, a crowd gathered around the bus station and started talking about it. But the discussion was quite calm and at no point was there even a threat of what occured in Chapel Hill. A couple of white townspeople even sided with our Negro in standing up for his rights. One of them told him: "If I had been you I would have fought them before letting them take me off the bus." After bail was put up, we walked around the small town completely unmolested.

Most of the other arrests occurred in larger towns such as Asheville, N. C. There, I and Dennis Banks, a Negro musician from Chicago, were sentenced to 30 days on the chain gang on a charge of violating the state's jim-crow law.

"Thirty days?" said Police Judge Sam Cathey, reputed to be a corrupt politician who remains in office because he is blind and nobody has ever dared run against him. Then he turned to the district attorney and asked: "Is that the maximum sentence under the law?" When the DA nodded, Judge Cathey said: "Then it is 30 days, under supervision of the State Highway Commission."

Judicial Extemporization

He then made a little speech which started: "We pride ourselves on our race relations here." Our lawyer, Curtiss Todd, is a Negro from Winston-Salem. It was the first time a Negro lawyer had appeared in that court, there being no Negro lawyers in Asheville. It was also unheard of to see a Negro lawyer defending a white man and to see a white and a Negro defendant sitting together in court. Never have I seen a look of hatred like the one a court attaché gave me as we were being locked up after the trial.

Trial of the Chapel Hill case came up on the very same day on which defense attorneys in Greensville, S. C., were presenting their final arguments for the 29 men acquitted two days later of lynching Willie Earl.

The identical appeals to prejudice and denunciations of northern interference featured the final summation of T. J. Phipps, prosecutor in Chapel Hill.

He opened with: "I have good friends among the 'nigras'—that is among the better element." He went on to state that the Negroes had been brought over from Africa as savages and had been civilized by the whites. Then came a lengthy argument to show that the Negroes really want jimcrow.

At one point he said: "I will now

(Continued on page 282)

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Helmer Brandell

WORKERS IN "KICK-OFF" DRIVE *of the Parsons, Kansas, branch of the NAACP.*

EMPLOYMENT

FBI Hiring Policies: The Washington bureau has protested to the FBI against its alleged discrimination in acceptance of Negro applicants for clerical jobs in J. Edgar Hoover's department.

Washington newspapers on July 29 reported that the FBI was accepting applications to fill two thousand clerical vacancies, and that there were openings for five hundred additional "agents." The notice also pointed out that the applicant did not have to meet civil service requirements. Since there are hundreds of Negro clerks in other government agencies who are about to lose their jobs because of staff reductions, they applied for these openings. But they were turned down, apparently, because of their race.

COVENANTS

Anti-Negro Appeal: The National office is in receipt of an interesting disclosure from its Detroit branch. In Detroit the Northwest Civic Association, Inc., has issued a petulant appeal for funds in order to fight restrictive covenant cases in their city.

The appeal reads:

The negroes' appeal in the case of Sipes vs. McGhee has now been accepted by the Supreme Court of the United States and will be heard at the October, 1947, term of that court.

This case, which involves restrictions prohibiting negroes from occupying property in our neighborhood, has been successfully fought by the Northwest Civic Association through the Wayne County Circuit Court and the Michigan Supreme Court and the cost has been a heavy drain in our treasury.

The proper defense of this case before the Supreme Court in Washington means heavy additional expense. But if every home owner in this neighborhood gives the Association his loyal support by paying his dues of $5.00, we can properly finance this battle with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which draws upon the whole United States and is our opponent in this case.

If we lose this case, the negroes will be able to move in next door to you, whether in Detroit, in the State of Michigan, or in any other State, as they did to Sipes and there will be no legal way to stop them.

So let's all pull together for the protection of our homes, and if everyone does his bit no one will be hurt and we will give them the fight of their lives.

STAGE

Actors Equity: In August the Association urged Actors Equity to withstand attempts being made to force the group to reverse its stand against the jim crow policy of the National theatre in Washington, D. C. Actors Equity has decided to prohibit any members of its group from appearing on the stage of any theatre which is "for whites only," and in its new contracts Equity stood on its original opposition to jim-crow.

NEW REGION

Southwest: The much-awaited South West regional office of the NAACP is scheduled to open sometime in September it has been announced by Gloster B. Current, director of branches.

Donald Jones has been assigned to the South West Region as Secretary. Mr. Jones has been with the Association for five years in the capacity of assistant field secretary. Headquarters for the region will be in Dallas, Texas. The South West Region comprises the states of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas.

Establishment of the South West Region comes as a result of action taken at the 1946 annual conference held in Cincinnati. The South West Region becomes the second region in the organizational structure of the Association. The first region was established in 1944 on the West Coast with offices in San Francisco. Noah Griffin is the West Coast regional secretary. States in the West Coast Region are California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and the Territory of Hawaii.

LEGAL

Veteran's Widow to Sue: Oscar H. Haynes, Sr., sheriff of Webster Parish, Louisiana, and his surety company, have been made defendants in a $50,000 damage suit filed in Shreveport in the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana by Mrs. Carrie Lee Jones, widow of the late Corporal John C. Jones, resident

YOUTH COUNCIL *workers in Great Neck, L. I., branch membership campaign which covered Great Neck, Port Washington, and Manhasset. Front row, L to R, Helen Brown, Etta Heslop, and Ruth Boyd; back, Sadie Brown, Anne Francis, and Anne Carter.*

of Cotton Valley, La., who was lynched by a mob near Minden on August 8, 1946.

The petition was filed by Attorney A. P. Tureaud of New Orleans for Mrs. Jones in behalf of herself and her 5-year-old daughter, Myrtis Ann.

Mrs. Jones, now a resident of California, charges that Oscar H. Haynes, Sr., was a duly elected and qualified sheriff of Webster Parish on or about August 7, 1946, when her husband, Corporal John C. Jones, was in legal custody of the sheriff and was incarcerated in the Parish jail at Minden, La., and that it was the duty of the sheriff to provide for the safe-keeping and protection of prisoners or persons accused of crime placed in his custody.

On or about the night of August 7, 1946, the petition continues, an irresponsible mob of white men appeared at the Minden jail and demanded that Jones be turned over to them. It was apparent that the mob intended to inflict serious injury on Jones, the petition stated, and the defendant or his deputies aided and abetted the mob by surrendering Jones wthout the slightest resistance. The mob placed Jones in a waiting ambulance and lynched him at Dorcheat Bayou, a nearby wooded section, on the night of August 7 or morning of August 8.

In her petition, Mrs. Jones charges that Haynes failed in his duty to safely keep and protect Jones and by reason of his failure he becomes liable to her and her minor daughter for the death of their husband and father.

LYNCHINGS

NEW TECHNIQUE: Dixie's "self-defense murders" in which white men shoot Negroes in the back and then all-white grand juries or coroners term the killings "justifiable homicides committed in self-defense" are steadily increasing and have totaled four during the past four weeks, according to Daniel E. Byrd, president of the Louisiana state association of NAACP branches.

Mr. Byrd's files reveal the most recently uncovered murder as the wanton slaying of William Brown, an 83-year-old Negro, on July 19 at Lettsworth, La., by a game warden.

Other slayings recorded are those of Wesley Thomas, 31-year-old woodcutter, at Calhoun, La., by W. D. Thompson, a 21-year-old white man, on July 30; the fatal shooting of Versie Johnson, 34-year-old prisoner, by law officers at Prentiss, Miss., on August 1; and the shooting of Elijah Myles, 21-year-old rubbish collector, in New Orleans on July 18 by Ferdinand Mohr, white foreman on the Agriculture Street Dump.

Concerning the Lettsworth killing which was fully uncovered last week by a white labor union official, William Brown, 83-year-old Negro, had gone into the woods near that town to hunt squirrels. Charley Ventril, a white game warden, went into the woods, engaged Brown in an argument concerning the contents of Brown's hunting bag, took him to the edge of the woods and shot him in the back of the head, according to reports received.

The warden is alleged to have walked to a nearby white sharecropper and told him, "I just shot a 'nigger'; let his folks know."

The union official told NAACP representatives that the official coroner's report stated: "The Negro's gun was cocked; the killing was justifiable because the warden shot in self-defense."

At Calhoun, La., Wesley Thomas, 31-year-old woodchopper, was shot in the back and killed by W. D. Thompson, 21-year-old white farmer, in a sharecropper's shack Wednesday, July 30, about noon.

According to law officers, Thomas allegedly threatened the life of his white employer about 9 a.m. that day. Sheriff Milton Coverdale, who expressed the opinion that the killing was justified, said a search had been under way for Thomas since early that morning when he engaged in an argument with Z. W. Fuller, white farmer. The young slayer's father was a witness to the argument, the sheriff said.

Young W. D. Thompson, who fatally shot Wesley Thomas about three hours later, had left home shortly before the shooting, armed with a .38 caliber revolver "to search for a lost hog," the sheriff said. The youth told the sheriff he had tried to capture Thomas and when "he tried to run into a house, let him have it."

A coroner's jury termed the shooting a "justifiable homicide," saying Thompson had "acted in self-defense" because the Negro was running into a house where there were two butcher knives, a loaded shotgun and rifle and a hatchet."

The NAACP learned from a reliable source, however, that Thomas had been an employee of Z. W. Fuller, who owns a farm near Calhoun. Thomas is said to have asked for his pay on Saturday, and the employer is said have refused, telling Thomas to report for work as usual on Monday. Thomas did not report for work on Monday but went to work for another farmer instead.

Informants say that Fuller is alleged to have started out to form a mob, but when he found it difficult resorted to another course. Unconfirmed rumors have it that a Negro man was offered $50 to kill Thomas.

In the other case, Versie Johnson, a 34-year-old rape suspect, was shot and killed at Prentiss, Miss., after being taken to the scene of the alleged crime. Sheriff G. O. Barry and two state policemen, Andy Hopkins and J. Spencer

Puckett, shot Johnson to death when he is alleged to have grabbed for Puckett's gun.

A determined mob was reported to have given Sheriff Barry eight hours to "get a confession out of Johnson." The district attorney said the filing of charges against the officers would be mere formality and that a hearing would be held to "clear the white men."

The fatal shooting of Elijah Myles in New Orleans also resulted in the return of a no-true bill despite the testimony of doctors and witnesses that Ferdinand Mohr, white city employee, had shot Myles in the back.

What the Branches Are Doing

DELEGATES TO GEORGIA STATE CONFERENCE *of youth councils, which met in Columbus, Ga., last spring. Seated, L to R, Dorothy McIver, secretary; Luetta Calvin, vice-president; standing, Louis Rovers, guest speaker; Stella Reeves, state advisor; James Herndon, president; and Arthur Johnson, treasurer.*

CALIFORNIA: The West Coast regional office in SAN FRANCISCO reports interesting items about branch activities on the Coast. By mid-July the LOS ANGELES branch had neared the half-way mark in its membership drive for 15,000 members. L. G. Robinson was chairman of the three-month membership campaign.

Other accomplishments of the branch are summed up as follows: Secured the appointment of a Negro to the Los Angeles police commission; contributed almost $3000 for a state FEPC act and obtained 20,000 signatures to get the measure on the ballot; $1200 of this sum was paid to Frederick M. Roberts as lobbyist at Sacramento. The branch secured supplies from both senators Knowland and Downey in a request that they support anti-lynching legislation. Replies were also secured from representatives Helen Gahagan Douglas and Morris Paulson.

The Los Angeles branch has secured to date more than 35,000 signatures on anti-lynching petitions and letters. It has filed briefs *amicus curiae* in restrictive covenant cases now on appeal in the Supreme Court. It has invested more than $2000 on the Henry and Anna Laws restrictive covenant case and was the first to carry this celebrated case to the Supreme Court. It has pressed state investigation and financed expenses of private investigators for the burning of the O'Day Short family in Fontana. And the branch has likewise investigated hundreds of cases of reported police brutality.

The SANTA CLARA County branch has organized a NAACP Juniors Drum Corps of 18 boys and 18 girls, ages 5 to 2 years. This is a mixed group, all children of NAACP members.

A sensation was created in Palo Alto when the Drum Corps made its initial appearance in the Spring Festival Parade on May 3. They received a certificate of award for excellence from the Recreation Commission.

In YUMA, Arizona, the branch has fought against the biased attitude of the local school board in its attempt to build a new Negro school in an undesirable location without consulting local Negro citizens.

In MADERA, Calif., the branch has launched a fight against a local lumber company, asking the removal of a log-pond and smoke nuisance which are a menace to the health of about 150 Negro families which live in the vicinity.

Local officials are reluctant to start proceedings against the lumber company and no attorney in Madera has shown willingness to take the case against the milling concern. According to the Madera branch president, the California Lumber and Mill Company purchased some land adjoining the land of Madera citizens about a block out of town and then set up a lumber mill. Subsequently they built a log-pond nearby, against which the home owners are now protesting. There is no outlet to the pond and they fear the stagnant water will become a breeding place for mosquitoes and malaria germs. Local health officials say they can probably eliminate the mosquitoes; and they admit that the pond is a hazard for small children; but they say their mothers can watch them.

The smoke stack is such a nuisance that no clothes can be hung outdoors, and ashes and soot pepper the houses all the time the mill is in operation.

The INDIO branch, though only two months old, already has 160 members. Chairmen of important standing committees have also been appointed, as follows: Louis Prat, legal redress; Mrs. Tecro Flemming, publicity; B. A. Flemming, labor; John L. Chappell and Virgil Sheffield, education; Mrs. Louis Sheffield, The Crisis; Eugene Walker, registration and youth; Mrs. Mamie Brittwood, entertainment; Bill Battles, labor and industry; Mrs. Luther Weaver and Margaret Massengale, membership; Ed Thomas, veterans; and Lovell Flemming, housing.

The recently organized KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon, branch reports an enrollment of 63 members and the appointment of important standing committees. Among the committee chairmen are the following: Mrs. Josephine Peters, membership; Ernestine Watson, press and publicity; Kenneth Lambie, legal redress; Isaiah Gardner, labor and industry; Mariam Smyth, education; Ida Johnson, entertainment; William Morris, youth work; and Willie James Watson, veterans.

In VANCOUVER, Washington, the branch is vigorously fighting passage of the Cain-Wolcott bills which call for the immediate sale of all public housing units, both temporary and permanent. Passage of these bills would threaten the homes and future security not only of Vancouver's less than 200 Negro families, but the entire community. More than $125 has been collected to fight the housing-sale measure and more than 1000 post cards have been distributed in objection to the measure.

Statement of the WASHINGTON branch to the press concerning the cancellation of the NAACP boat ride on the Robert E. Lee: "In view of the fact that it is the considered

opinion of the officers of the branch that the officials of the steamboat Robert E. Lee have not kept the terms, of their contract, both oral and written, to the effect that the Robert E. Lee Company employ colored citizens in the offices of the company, permit all groups the use of the boat regardless of race, hire a colored assistant manager, and make available concessions similar to those of the other boats, the D. C. branch hereby gives notice of cancellation of its contract to cruise down the Potomac on Saturday, July 12, at 2:30 P.M."

Said Dr. Stephen G. Spottswood, president of the branch, "The District of Columia Branch, has, in cancelling this project, disregarded the possible financial loss entailed for the sincere espousal of honest democratic principles. It is our belief that in following this action we may show the citizens of Washington the course they must pursue if they are to attain self-respect and the respect of their community." The branch secretary, Joseph H. B. Evans, stated that "the issues involved are larger than individuals or any one group. They demand the full devotion of the combined strength of all of us. Now is the time for a forthright position and the Branch, as of today, is determined to take it."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: In July Leslie S. Perry of the Washington bureau appeared before the House subcommittee on elections to testify in support of legislation to abolish the poll tax. "The poll tax contributes," said Mr. Perry among other things "to the effective disenfranchisement of approximately 10 million American citizens, black and white alike. . . . It is generally claimed by the proponents of poll taxes that a dollar or two is little enough to pay for the great privilege of voting. Actually, it is a trifling sum—if you have got it. But the South has always had the lowest per capita income in the nation. . . .

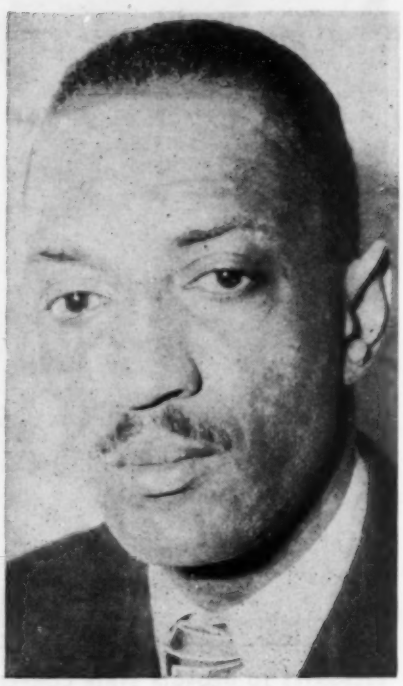
"The effect of these mass disenfranchisements permeates our entire national life and sickens it like a gangrenous sore. . . ."

IOWA: The DES MOINES branch brought its membership campaign to a successful conclusion with a reported total of 2,096 members. Three workers in the campaign were outstanding with reports of over two hundred members each. They were Mrs. Margaret Joseph, Attorney Charles P. Howard, and Mrs. Azalia Mitchell.

KANSAS: The PARSON branch began its "kick-off" membership drive with a mass meeting and an address by Mrs. Evelyn Weaver, third vice-president of the Kansas state conference of branches.

MASSACHUSETTS: In WORCESTER the branch sent letters to senators Saltonstall and Lodge, and representative Donahue, urging action on rent controls.

MICHIGAN: Twenty-seventh anniversary of the organization of the PONTIAC branch was celebrated at the Crystal Beach Community Center in July.



PROMOTIONAL DIRECTOR ROBERT H. GRIFFIN *of the Atlantic City, N. J., branch who headed a drive for a children's hospital to be located on Absecon Island. As a result of his leadership and the cooperation of allied groups a check for $2,071.68, with $400 in pledges, was presented to the building fund on July 15. The branch became interested when the democratic policy of the hospital was stated.*

MEDICAL CARE AND THE PLIGHT OF THE NEGRO

By W. Montague Cobb, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Cobb's report on the Negro medical ghetto and what it means in terms of health and the Negro doctor and patient.

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Five delegates from the OAKLAND county branch attended the state convention in Mt. Clemens June 21-22. They were Mrs. La Dora Hunt, president; Jessie Withers, vice-president; Magnolia Andrews, secretary; Reece Germany, membership chairman; and James Countney Murphy, Jr. Mrs. Hunt was appointed regional director of one of the three districts of the state group.

The Detroit Amateur Baseball Federation has been asked by the DETROIT branch to take immediate action to eliminate discrimination in its federation and to enunciate a non-discrimination policy as a basic policy of their organization. This action of the branch was taken after a letter had been written to the Baseball Federation by Max Osnos of Sam's Cut Rate Department Store and Ben T. Morris, who are both sponsors of teams in the Federation.

It was pointed out by Edward M. Swan, executive secretary of the branch, that the question of exclusion of non-white players has been called to the attention of the DABF on many occasions in the past and that the discriminatory practice had not been eliminated.

In July the branch called the attention of Michigan senators and congressmen to the fact that the Automobile Club of Michigan, which is opposing a federal drivers' license law, might be doing so for fear that such a law would force them to accept Negroes for membership in the automobile club. It is well known that the AC of M has consistently refused to insure cars owned by Negroes, and that by this discriminatory action it has denied Negro drivers the benefits of AAA services.

The continuous branch fight against restrictive covenants has now reached the climax of a Supreme Court hearing for the McGhee case, scheduled for fall hearing.

As a result of two cases filed with the Detroit branch involving the use of abusive language to citizens by police officers the branch has asked Commissioner Ballenger to investigate such unseemly police action.

MINNESOTA: The MINNEAPOLIS branch is giving full support to James T. Wardlaw and John Williams of Milwaukee in their fight against Dougherty's Bar of 252 Hennepin Avenue. James Wardlaw, executive secretary of the Minneapolis Urban League, went to Dougherty's Bar with John Williams, editor of the Milwaukee *Globe*, in July for a drink of whiskey.

When Williams approached the bar to ask for a drink, the bartender threatened to attack him if he did not leave the premises. Williams then went to the Urban League office. After calling a *Tribune* reporter, Williams and Wardlaw returned to the bar. Then it is alleged that the bartender began upbraiding Williams for coming back, suggesting that Williams was "looking for trouble." When the two men said they merely wanted a drink, the bartender told them it would be "five dollars a shot." Wardlaw asked for Scotch, and Jacobs, the bartender, told him it would

be $10 a drink, although Scotch is listed at 60 cents a drink at Dougherty's.

Wardlaw then called the police and returned to the bar with them. Jacobs is said then to have spat in one of the bar glasses. Though this was a violation of the city sanitary code, the police officers, James Wallace and Walter Dahlman, made no arrest. A complaint was later issued against Jacob by Michael Dillon, Hennepin county attorney, for charging Wardlaw $10 for a drink.

On June 29 the ST. PAUL branch held an anti-lynching mass meeting in the nature of a memorial to lynch victims. The meeting was addressed by Val Bjornsen, associate editor of the St. Paul *Pioneer Press and Dispatch.*

Postal cards were given to persons present at the meeting and they were asked to use them to write their congressmen urging support of the anti-lynch bill. Petitions were also circulated in connection with the meeting.

The July 1 issue of the *Pioneer Press* devoted an editorial to the anti-lynch mass meeting and President Truman's speech at the annual NAACP conference in Washington.

THE THALHEIMER AWARD *for outstanding branch achievement is here being handed to Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson of the Baltimore, Md., branch. The award is* $100.

NEW JERSEY: The LONG BRANCH unit was host June 6 to the colored graduates of the Long Branch high school at a party given at the Grant Court Community Center. The annual branch award to the Negro graduate with the highest scholastic achievement went to Laura Robinson. Jefferson Meekins, former high-school band major, was given a special award for his contribution toward promoting better interracial understanding.

Eighty-nine contributors to the Bishop Building Fund were listed in July by the ATLANTIC CITY branch. Robert H. Griffin, director of the drive, and William Massey, Jr., presented a check for $2500 to Monsignor Maurice Spillane July 11.

In an effort to get visitors to use all available public facilities in Atlantic City, the publicity committee of the local branch placed small 10 x 7 placards in hotels, restaurants, barber shops, beauty shops, apartments, and churches. The branch had one special wish—to see Negro vacationists spread out along the beachfront instead of congregating in one spot. The placard read: "WELCOME VISITORS! The Atlantic City Branch, N. A. A. C. P., Reminds You of the New Jersey Civil Rights Law which says that 'All Persons . . . shall be entitled to full and Equal Enjoyment of Accommodations, advantages, privileges and facilities of . . . public places.' Remember this when bathing, eating, attending movies, theatres or piers. But—We warn you that your BEHAVIOR, not your color can do much harm. So be courteous at all times."

The CAMDEN branch was asked to investigate the killing of DeVangelis Shoultz in the Gloucester county jail where he was being held as a prisoner for larceny. Shoultz was shot several times when he became disorderly in his cell. There were no witnesses with the exception of the police officials and guards. Other prisoners were unable to verify what actually happened or the order of events leading up to the killing. Negro citizens in Woodbury and Gloucester county organized with the cooperation of the Ministerial Alliance and other clubs and held a protest mass meeting. Robert B. Johnson, chairman of the Camden branch legal committee, entered the investigation.

Gloucester county police officials have had the reputation for years of being prejudiced and unfair in dealing with Negro offenders; therefore Johnson asked Justice Dongees to appoint a special prosecutor to hear the case. This request was denied. The Camden branch had a post-mortem on Shoultz's body performed by Dr. Lancess McKnight of Media, Pa. Dr. McKnight found that Shoultz had been shot in the back and several times from the front, and made a report of his findings to the grand jury. The case against the trooper was "no-billed." The branch paid Dr. McKnight $75.00 for his service. The Woodbury committee presented $203.06, cleared from their mass meeting, to the Camden branch to assist with expenses in the case. Johnson stated he felt we had little chance of winning this case without more evidence. Evidence would of course also be necessary in order to enter a civil suit. No further action in the case.

The last case before the legal committee was the case of Robert Simons who was brutally beaten by Camden police officers while being arrested. The committee is investigating the case. Simons was fighting at the time of his arrest and it is thought both men were drunk. The executive board voted not to represent this man in court but that instead the legal committee was to present a complete record showing all cases of police brutality against Negro citizens in Camden City to the Camden office of the New Jersey state attorney general, Van Riper.

NEW YORK: After five futile attempts to see Justice Thomas Downs of the Queens County Court, a special committee working with the legal redress committee of the JAMAICA branch finally succeeded in getting an audience with the justice.

John H. Klugh, president, Mrs. Eva Tate, Mrs. Joyce Turner, Dr. J. H. Hamilton, Rev. Jesse Routte, and Maud G. Routte were primarily interested in the integration of qualified Negroes on the staff of the Queens County Court.

Justice Downs said that he has always recognized talent in the Negro race, that Negro lawyers have been helpful in his court, and that he will do all in his power to have Negroes integrated on the staff of his court. They must, however, be recommended by the State Civil Service Commission as from among the first three at the top of the list.

James Egert Allen, president of the NEW YORK state conference of branches, wrote a letter on July 31 to Jack M. Davis of the Hotel Marcy, Lake Placid, N. Y., commending him "on the forward and democratic stand you have taken in connection with the operation of your hotel."

"When I contrast your position with the attitude of many resort hotels, I am compelled to realize that the fight for equality is more necessary than ever," wrote Mr. Allen.

OHIO: The MARTINS FERRY branch was formally presented with its charter on May 15 in the gymnasium of the local Elm school. The charter was presented by Charles P. Lucas, executive secretary of the Cleveland branch, to Emmett Freeman, president of the newly organized branch.

Other speakers were Thomas Starks and Ellis Ross, vocational counsellor for the Ohio State Employment Service. Mrs. George Peters of Wheeling sang and Miss Geraldine Faithful of Flushing, Ohio, played the piano.

The CINCINNATI branch sends the following report on the Haney Bradley case.

Judge William D. Alexander cautioned spectators in his court against applauding his decision acquitting Haney Bradley of charges of disorderly conduct and assault and battery which had been preferred against him by patrolmen Ancil Russell and George Berheide. This case, which has been the source of a great deal of interest in Cincinnati, was accorded unusal treatment in court.

Witnesses for Bradley, Mark Hardcastle and Gene LaRue, both white, were highly incensed at the brutal beating administered by the two officers, characterizing it as the most vicious act they had ever witnessed.

Bradley was stopped by Russell and Berheide on June 13 while on his way back to Mergard's Bowling Lanes on McMillan Street. When Bradley told the officers that he had not robbed a house in the neighborhood, both policemen began to beat him about the head and kick him in the groin, with the result that twelve stitches were needed to close up his wounds.

Judge Alexander's verdict now leaves the way open for the branch to prefer charges to the Police Trial Board against the offending police officers.

PENNSYLVANIA: Reverend Frank A. Reed, president of the YORK branch, reports that through efforts of his branch segregation in the local municipal swimming pool has been broken down. The city council removed racial barriers against Negroes after presentation of the case of two Negro youths who had been denied accommodation at the pool.

TENNESSEE: Annual banquet of the JOHNSON CITY branch was held in July. Prizes were awarded to the best dressed teen-agers, the best dressed woman, the most outstanding community worker, the most efficient branch worker, and the branch worker who was most faithful in attendance. Mrs. Carrie Smith, chairman of the entertainment committee, supervised the serving of a very delicious repast to more than 200 persons.

Book Reviews

REMINISCENCES

***Paris Was Our Mistress:* Memoirs of a Lost**

Out September 11

The Walls Came Tumbling Down

By Mary White Ovington

AT last there is in print a story of the NAACP written by one who knows its history from *before* it actually came into being. Miss Ovington was one of the founders of the NAACP in February, 1909. She had done social work in Negro neighborhoods prior to that time. Forty years ago she was insulted in print because she ate dinner at a table with a colored person.

In her work as chairman of the board, and for many, many years as treasurer of the NAACP, she has traveled in the North and in the South. She has known the NAACP from the time it was composed of a few committees in three or four cities, until today when it has 1,500 local units throughout the nation.

She is not one of those white persons who from a sheltered spot has worked "for Negroes." For more than half her long life she has worked "with Negroes" for full and complete equality.

Read the absorbing and dramatic story of her life and the life of the NAACP in *The Walls Came Tumbling Down*, off the press September 11.

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THE CRISIS BOOK SHOP

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Every copy ordered from The Crisis Book Shop will be personally autographed by Miss Ovington

and Found Generation. By Samuel Putnam. New York: The Viking Press, 1947. VII+264pp. $3.00.

This book is part history and part memoir of the expatriate American colony of the twenties and early thirties which made the carrefour Vavin of Paris the centre of its universe. Older readers will recall that Gertrude Stein dubbed them "the Lost Generation." Mr. Putnam, it seems, is much more charitable. so he calls them "the lost and found generation." Neither tag seems, however, in the light of their accomplishments and their simple-hearted devotion to sensation, justified. In their own eyes unfledged geniuses and neglected artists, they were in reality just ordinary gullible Americans surfeited with the American myths of equality and freedom. The impact of World War I with its specious slogans shook them into an awareness of the childish prejudices of the States and set up in their breasts a yearning for the illusory freedom of the Left Bank. Amusingly enough, they were themselves marked examples of the very Pollyanna optimism, materialism, and hypocrisy which they affected to despise.

Fleeing from Harding's "normalcy" and prohibition, they spent their substance in Paris, for the most part, in boozing, cafe brawling. and frenetic bawdry. Their literary activities were sterile and esoteric; and reading today their few published books, one marvels at the clamor they made on such scanty revenues of talent. The real writers like Hemingway and Eliot never really belonged. Probably the best examination of their highfalutin quackery is to be found in the late Ernest Boyd's "Aesthete: Model 1924," unless it be Henry Miller's (he did not belong either) *Tropic of Cancer.*

Mr. Putnam takes an indulgent view of their puerilities and writes about the expatriates with a good deal of charm and sympathetic insight. He is inclined, however, to overrate both their talents and their contribution to American letters. Most of the habitues of the *Dome,* the *Select,* and the *Coupole* romp through his pages. Aleister Crowley, the drug-fiend and poet; Willy Seabrook, specialist in voodoo and flagellation; Ilya Ehrenbourg, the Bolshevik Cassandra; Tristan Tzara, the Roumanian founder of *Dada;* and Isadora Duncan's brother, Raymond, who went in for Greek chlamys and Roman togas. There are others who flit in and out of the picture: Frank Harris, Emma Goldman, Harold Stearns, James Farrell, Kiki (who remarks in her *Souvenirs* that the artistic circles are "so full of charming screw-balls"), and many others.

In leaves from his "Latin Quarter Sketchbook" Mr. Putnam gives us little etchings of Ezra Pound, Ernest Hemingway, Ford Madox Ford, and Gertrude Stein; in "Continental Vignettes" he explains Louis Aragon, Jean Cocteau, Pablo Picasso, Brancusi, Marc Chagall, Luigi Pirandello, André Derain, and Filippo Marinetti. These portraits are frequently revealing and often malicious.

If you like reminiscences and gossip about writers and artists, their loves, hates, and eccentricities, this book will entertain. Mr. Putnam writes with a wistful longing for the "good old days," but without that *J'm' ennuie de Panam* sentimentality that was so cloying in Elliott Paul's *The Last Time I Saw Paris.*

J. W. I.

HER BOOK OUT *September* 11. MARY WHITE OVINGTON, *author of "The Walls Came Tumbling Down."*

MOUNE LACAMPAGNE

***Masters of the Dew.* By Jacques Roumain. Translated by Langston Hughes and Mercer Cook. New York: Reynal & Hitchcock, 1947. X+180pp. $2.50.**

This is a thoughtful proletarian novel, not too heavily sauced with didacticism, about Manuel Jean-Joseph and the country people —*moune lacampagne*—who inhabit the little Haitian village of Fonds Rouge. When Manuel, who has spent fifteen years working in the cane fields of Cuba, returns to his home, he finds the once fertile farms parched and barren, the streams dried up, and the villagers in starving despair. To make matters worse what little substance they have is subject to the rapacity of land speculators, tax-collectors, the rural police, and Vodun medicine men. Frustrated and miserable they are further divided by a bitter feud of long standing, and their only solace is rum, cock fights, gossip. and *Legba* ceremonies.

Manuel returns to face this wretchedness with a new light in his eyes and revolutionary ideas in his head. The old folks blame God and pray to their *loas* (deities) but Manuel blames man and pries into nature. Knowing there must be water somewhere in the hills, he follows the flight of the wood pigeons and watches the *malanga* growth until he finds it. Now he must unite the two factions in the village, revivify the *coumbite* (the communal work group), for the water must be brought down from the hills. Understanding and patience bring success but at the cost of his life.

Roumain skilfully evokes pictures of the Haitian countryside, the jutted mountains and dry gullies, the thorn acacias, the ferns and *malangas,* the tamarind trees, the cactus fences, the wild guinea fowl. His style is vivid, simple, poetic, and his compassion for his people deeply moving. *Masters of the Dew* is Roumain's best prose fiction, much superior to his earlier *La Montagne Ensorcelée* (1931)—"The Ensorcelled Mountain"—and *Les Fantoches* (1930)—Puppets"—a short novel about "highlife port-au-princien."

Jacques Roumain, however, is much more important as personality and man than his works. He was born July 7, 1907, in Port-au-Prince and died August 18, 1944. after a brilliant career, in that same city. Member of an aristocratic and wealthy Haitian family, he was educated in his native city, Berne, Zurich. Paris, Madrid, and New York. He traveled and sojourned in Germany, England. Belgium, Martinique, Cuba, and Mexico. He was poet, novelist, short story writer. translator, ethnographer, and political leader. He was founder-president of the Ligue de la Jeunesse Patriote Haitienne, founder-director of the Bureau d'Ethnologie de la Republique d'Háiti, and founder-secretary-general of the Haitian Communist party (PCH). As a result of his political activities he spent many years in jail and exile, and at the time of his death he was in "a kind of honorary banishment" as chargé d'affaires of the Lescot government in Mexico City. Roumain was also founder of the *Revue Indigene* and fugleman in young Haiti's re examination and appreciation of its African heritage.

A word about the translation. Messrs. Hughes and Cook have done an excellent job of turning *Gouverneurs de la Rosée* (1944) into an eloquent English which recaptures to a large extent the spirit and sense of the original. Since Haitian peasant speech is salty and often Rabelaisian, the translators have toned down the bolder expressions. Giving verisimilitude to Haitian peasant speech is a tricky literary business at best because their language is Creole. Therefore most Haitian novelists try to recapture the idiom and aura of peasant talk by using a poetically simple French and sprinkling their pages with occasional Creole words, phrases, proverbs, and often lengthy Creole songs. Roumain does this, too; but since it does not carry over very well in translation, our translators very wisely stick to straight English.

It might interest readers to know that *Masters of the Dew* was the Negro Book Club selection for July.

J. W. I.

IN BRIEF

***The Art of Worldly Wisdom:* Three Hundred Precepts for Success Based on the Original Work of Baltasar Gracian. By Otto Eisenschiml. New York: Duell, Sloane and Pearce, 1947. VI+160pp. $2.50.**

A not too successful attempt by a prominent chemist to give a new interpretation to Gracian's *Oráculo Manual y Arte de Prudencia.* Mr. Otto Eisenschiml frankly admits that his work is not a translation but a "transliteration", and that he has "condensed Gracian's observations and simplified his phraseology." He also plays editor and introduces, not always happily, material of his own. A procedure which often makes it difficult for the reader to know whether he is being enlightened by Gracian or instructed by Eisenschiml. Our author's condensations are often much wordier than the originals and his illustrations frequently banal.

Very little is known about Baltasar Gracian (1601-1658) except that he was educated by the Jesuits and afterwards became a member of that order. His *Oráculo Manual* was published in 1647(?) and soon achieved such vogue that it was translated into most European tongues. (Probably the best English version is that of Joseph Jacobs.) What Gracian offers are maxims of general utility based on sound common sense; a wordly wisdom which to the naive and inexperienced smacks of cynicism despite Gracian's generally high moral tone.

***Angry Men—Laughing Men:* The Caribbean Caldron. By Wenzell Brown. New York: Greenberg, Publisher, 1947. XIII+369pp. $3.50.**

Whatever value this book possess comes from its author's indignation at human misery and the ugliness of poverty. In most other respects it is superficial. To cover a dozen or more island countries, as the author does, is to confine oneself to externals. Though Mr. Brown has some perception of the socio-economic problems of the people and their aspirations his views are still those of an ill-informed outsider. Our author is frequently inaccurate as when he dates the Haitian slave revolt 1804 (should have been 1790-91) and distorts Haitian *vodun*. It is also surprising to find him christening *The Crisis* "an apologist for Lescot."

***The Traveller's Eye.* By Dorothy Carrington. New York: Pilot Press, 1947. XI+381pp. Illustrated. $4.00.**

Specimens of travel literature excerpted from the works of seventy-seven celebrated English globe-trotters ranging from Sir John Hawkins through Mary Kingsley, Horace Walpole, Richard Burton, and Christopher Isherwood to Cecil Beaton. A gadabout herself, Miss Carrington intersperses her quotations with interconnecting comments of her own. Section II—"West Africa and the West Indies"—furnishes biting comment on the rapacity and brutality of the English slave trade and West Indian slavery.

***Where the Sabiá Sings:* A Partial Autobiography. By Henriqueta Chamberlain. Sketches by Ken Chamberlain. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1947. 246pp. $3.00.**

A refreshing book of reminiscences beginning with the birth of our author in the small town of Floresta de Leoes, near Recife, Brazil, and ending with her graduation from Baylor college in Texas. In between are delightful vignettes of her Baptist missionary parents, her schoolmates, her friends, and her Brazilian neighbors. She alternates charming sketches of *doce* vendors, dry-goods pedlars, and *carregadores* with humorous bits of local color.

Mrs. Chamberlain's parents were Southerners, but they had no race prejudice; and the first contemptuous reference she ever heard about Negroes came from a visiting American. Real knowledge of American inhumanity towards Negroes was reserved for a visit to the States. She still cannot understand this aberration, because in Brazil people were just people, Brazilians, and not Negroes or whites. The *sabiá* is the Brazilian mocking bird, and Mrs. Chamberlain takes her title from the second line of Gonçalves Dias' famous poem, "Song of Exile," written in 1843 while the famous mulatto was resident in Portugal. Our author is now married to an American, Ken Chamberlain, and has three sons; yet her pages are suffused with wistful memories of Brazil, seemingly an exemplification of the Brazilian proverb: *O que o berço dá, só a cova tira* ("What the cradle gives, only the grave takes away").

***The High Cost of Prejudice.* By Bucklin Moon. New York: Julian Messner Inc., 1947. XVI+168pp. $2.50.**

A book about the money cost of prejudice, though not in the strict accounting sense. In employment, prejudice means lowered production; in the army, less efficiency; in organized labor, the jim-crow union; in politics, the southern demagogue and the rotten borough; in international relations, hypocrisy and frustration; in the Negro, burning resentment; and in the white, collective schizophrenia. Mr. Moon believes that if Americans, who always pride themselves upon their efficiency, can be shocked into an awareness of the terrific price they pay for their prejudices they will do something about them. But irrationality is seldom cured by appeals to reason.

***World's Great Men of Color, Vol. II.* By J. A. Rogers. Published by the author, 37 Morningside Ave., New York 26. 1947. 420pp. Illustrated. $4.35 postpaid.**

Sixty-three sketches of famous men of color ranging from Benedict the Moor through Antonio Vieira, Jean Louis, Pushkin, Henrique Dias, Dom Pedro II, Peter Jackson, and Garvey to Joe Louis. There are nineteen Europeans, eight South and Central Americans, twelve West Indians, and twenty-four Americans; with an additional list of eighty-three personages and an appendix on Robert Browning. The portraits vary in length and quality.

NOTICE: Price of reprint of Dr. Cobb's "Medical Care and the Plight of the Negro" (July *Crisis*), originally announced to sell for five cents, is *ten cents.* The addition of new material and additional tables increased the production costs and we have had, regretfully, to increase the price per copy in order to absorb this added expense.

Shallow Roots

(*Continued from page 274*)

quote from a decision in a case in which a 'nigra' raped a white girl," and then paused conspicuously. The decision had no bearing on the question of segregation in interstate travel.

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At only one point in his half-hour summation did he touch on the legal aspects of the case.

The trial ended with Judge Henry Whitfield sentencing Igal Roodenko, white, to 30 days on the chain gang and Bayard Rustin, Negro, to costs. He later told our attorney off the record that he has much more contempt for a white man than for a Negro in such situations.

A month later, in sentencing the other two men arrested in Chapel Hill, the judge demonstrated still more contempt for a southern white man who opposes the prevailing prejudices. He sentenced Joe Felmet a white from Asheville to six months on the chain gang, which is six times the legal maximum. However, he was forced to reduce this to 30 days when the prosecutor pointed out that 30 days is the maximum under the state jim-crow law. At the same time he reduced the sentence of Andrew Johnson, the Negro convicted along with Felmet, from $50 and costs to $25 and costs.

Our lawyers in the Chapel Hill cases were C. Jerry Gates, Herman Taylor, and Edward Avant. The case in Asheville was defended by Curtiss Todd of Winston-Salem. Our Virginia cases are being handled by Martin, Hill & Robinson,the Richmond firm which successfully carried the Irene Morgan case to the Supreme Court. All are NAACP attorneys.

Our Appeals

Appeals on the Chapel Hill and Asheville cases come up within the next few months. The three Virginia cases—Petersburg, Amherst and Culpeper—have ben continued indefinitely pending decision of the Virginia Supreme Court in the Lottie Taylor case. A false arrest suit is planned in Durham where three of us were arrested and then released without charges.

In view of last June's Supreme Court decision, we hope to win these cases, to subsequently sue the bus companies for damages, and to thus discourage them from persisting in their jim-crow seating regulations. But more than that we hope that our trip will encourage others to help break down the jim-crow pattern by traveling interstate in an unsegregated manner.

This method was enthusiastically supported at our first meeting in Richmond, Va., by Charles Webber, president of the Virginia CIO Council. It was also indorsed by Moss Plunkett, outstanding Virginia liberal, at our Roanoke meeting. Our trip was sponsored by the Congress of Racial Equality and the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

Sources Of Broadway

(Continued from page 270)

an audition for a scholarship at Curtis Institute. There had been no Negroes at Curtis for ten years. She took two days off from school and won the scholarship. At Curtis she found life truly wonderful. Here she was, an escaped nurse, traveling around with born musicians (Bernstein was one of her schoolmates), studying voice, instruments, music theory, languages, meting Toscanini and Sir Thomas Beecham face to face. She knew she loved it. And whether she knew it or not, she was becoming a shiny new star.

Hans Wohlmuth, formerly a stage director of the Vienna Opera Company, was teaching her opera. She had read the Merimee story of Carmen in her French class; but Wohlmuth was teaching her the dramatic values in the music and in the story of the opera *Carmen*. He was helping her to overcome her reserve through practical acting exercises.

Thus, although she had not finished Curtis when John Henry Hammond, Jr., came to Philadelphia looking for a perfect Carmen Jones, Muriel was ready for the part. All the time she held this leading role—as her salary rose from $200 to $500 a week—she was studying, studying. She kept up her voice lessons; she took psychology and philosophy at Columbia. When the show settled down for a six months' run in Chicago, she studied anthropology at the University of Chicago. Then she went back to Curtis and graduated in 1946.

Though signed to a good contract for the fall, she still works hard to improve herself. Right now she is taking voice lessons four times a week from Alberto Martino.

The Cleveland Smith

That other gorgeous Smith girl, Mildred Joanne Smith, is Cleveland through and through. She went to school there, elementary and secondary. She entered Flora Stone Mather College (West Reserve University) in 1939, majoring in English and drama, and came out with an A.B. three years later. In another year she had an M.A. in psychology. During her college career, she worked with the College Players and the Cleveland Playhouse, overtopping any and all color lines.

As early as age nine she had sung on a children's program at a Cleveland radio station. This one appearance brought in such a flow of mail that she was given her own radio show—15 minutes three times a week over WJAY and WGAR—lasting until she entered college.

She was teaching and directing educational activities at the Cleveland Health Museum, acting only on the side. But even from this sheltered spot, word of her brilliance got to New York. She was promptly scouted, and offered an opportunity by Bill Liebling and Audrey Wood of Liebling-Wood, agents. She was sent to Eddie Dowling who quickly hired her for a part in *Men to the Sea*, August 1944.

Since then, she has appeared in *Blue Holiday, Mamba's Daughters, St. Louis Woman, Lysistrata*, and *Beggars' Holiday*. Though most of these have been unlucky shows, in that they had short runs, Mildred has been acknowledged everywhere as an actress of tremendous promise. Her publicity director says that "constant study and being prepared are the major elements contributing to Miss Smith's success." And this writer wishes to "go out on the limb" with the prediction that, barring accidents, Mildred Smith will reach the top in the acting profession.

Fine as the Smith girls are as artists and examples, let us not seem to be giving all the credit to formal education. Hollywood, bad as it is on the race question, keeps many good ar-

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tists busy between stage engagements. Radio does its share of training. A short selected list of the artists it helps keep fresh and vigorous for Broadway, and has helped to discover for the Big Street, would include: Georgia Burke, Maurice Ellis, Lorenzo Fuller, Mercedes Gilbert, Bob Howard, Jerry Laws, Canada Lee, Rosetta Le Noise, George Oliver, Hilda Simms, Lawrence Winters, and Milton Wood.

Though not nearly as helpful to Negro as to white actors, private drama teachers have helped some by training Valerie Black, Frederick O'Neal, Lewis Sharp, Alvis Tinnin, Lawrence Winters, and others.

Then there are the contributions made by choirs, professional and amateur (that is, in churches); dance companies; vaudeville tours; the recital business, amateur and professional, vocal, instrumental, dance, and even elocutionary; and opera companies.

Amateur Theatricals

In point of numbers the greatest contributor has been the amateur, semi-professional and professional show, especially in "the night spots" of this nation and other nations overseas. This contributor has not kept its practitioners under the most severe rules of their art, but it has compelled them to become seasoned and sure, and to develop style and variety.

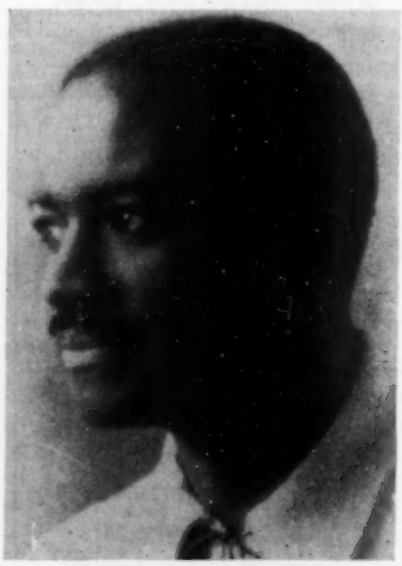
In the last three or four years city theatre groups throughout the nation and traveling groups that have taken the drama to the people have been a very commendable Broadway source. Cleveland has led all cities outside New York, with Detroit, Boston, Washington, New Orleans, and other cities giving notable help. Detroit, for example, was largely instrumental in getting *On Whitman Avenue* ready for its unexpectedly long Broadway showing.

In New York, two groups have been conspicuous — the American Negro Theatre and the Negro Drama Group. The American Negro Theatre has not confined itself to Negro actors, but it did give Broadway *Anna Lucasta* and the dozens of Negro actors who became permanent members of the profession by virtue of the play's great appeal. Although Frederick O'Neal is a solid artist and a co-founder of ANT, he is hardly responsible for the fact that ANT has not yet lived up to its promises.

The Negro Drama Group, under the leadership of Powell Lindsay, has done one-night stands all over this country. It has stimulated an interest in drama in out-of-the-way places, has given hungry Negro communities, segregated

AS HAITIAN GIRL *of the West Indies stage production, "The Pirate," which ran on Broadway a year (starring Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne)* MURIEL RAHN *was selected for the role over 250 other applicants. Miss Rahn was educated at Atlanta university, the University of Nebraska, Columbia, and Juilliard. She has appeared in five Broadway plays, with symphony orchestras, and in concerts from coast to coast.*

even from art, a chance to see plays for the first time in years, and has trained professional actors, or added to their training. Its famous trainees include Mildred Smith, Tommie Moore, Muriel Gaines, Jimmie Wright, Isabelle Cooley, John de Battle, and Grafton Trew. All of these have been in the Broadway playbills.



AN ALUMNUS *of eight Broadway productions,* EARL SYDNOR *is also a graduate of Brookwood college and the old-time Boston Players. In spite of his education for and on the stage, Earl is a realist and knows that staying up calls for more dramatic stamina than getting up.*

Billy Rose

This brings us to the Billy Rose University, otherwise known as *Carmen Jones.* This play was so important in collecting Negro artists of all kinds and passing them on to make new and that it deserves special mention.

Once Oscar Hammerstein II had sold the idea of *Carmen Jones* to Billy Rose, the job of finding the cast was assumed by Mr. Rose's young friend, John Henry Hammond, Jr. Hammond, though rich and society-reared, was not unknown to the Negro community and the art world, for he had built himself an unusual reputation as a jazz critic.

Between May and August 1943 he went all over the country, spending considerable time in Washington, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Nashville, and Chicago, getting up the voices for *Carmen Jones.* What stamped him as remarkable is that he did not look in the nightclubs and entertainment palaces as most of his predecessors had done; he strode boldly into the musical conservatories and the church choirs, for he envisioned a singing aggregation with a sincere ring. And he found what he was looking for.

Result: the finest looking, and the largest body of professional Negro singers ever assembled, and they sang pure operatic airs. The same thing went for the instrumentalists and dancers.

This writer has evidence that *Carmen Jones* advanced the cause of the Negro artist in the theatre by at least one generation. More than a hundred people got their chance in this musical and at least a dozen were able to convince other producers through their *Carmen* performances.

You may not be a Helen Hayes who did her first acting at the age of three in a barn with dolls. You may not be an Orson Welles who learned so much about magic from Houdini that he eloped at nine with the idea of keeping himself and wife alive through magical shows, and who had read all of Shakespeare before he went to school at the age of ten. You may have to spend an entire lifetime touring 39 states, teaching, reading dramatically for semi-ignorant audiences before your great opportunity comes to play no less a personage than the Lord himself, as Richard Harrison did.

As Miss Webster told her soldier boys who were grieving about their years lost away from the stage in the Army, "You don't lose time if you have truly lived. What you are and what you've done gets into your acting."

LEGAL DIRECTORY

The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorney outside their home towns. THE CRISIS maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizen rights.

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